

ARMY



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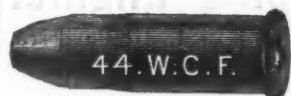
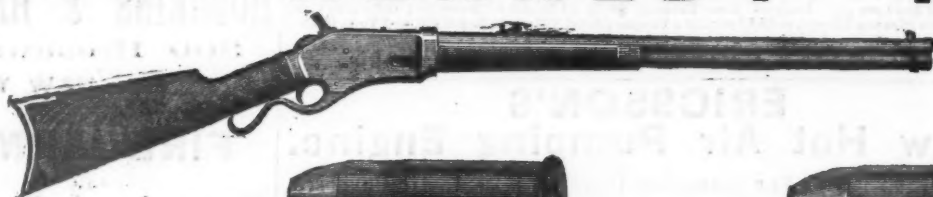
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VOLUME XX.—NUMBER 80.
WHOLE NUMBER 1018.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1883.

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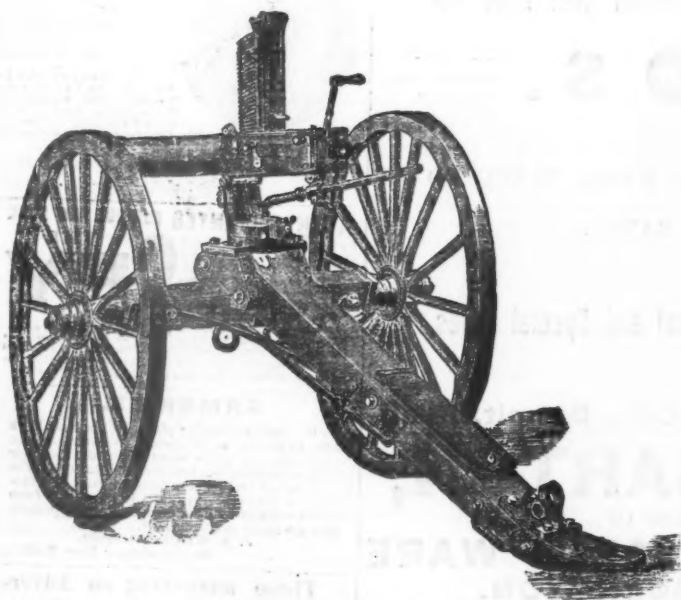
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OUR NATIONAL DANGER.

A Lecture Delivered in Steinway Hall, New York, Feb. 15, 1883, by Peter S. Michie, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. A., Professor Natural and Experimental Philosophy, U. S. Military Academy.

The subject of Coast Defences was so ably treated by Professor Michie, in his lecture to which we alluded last week, that we wish he might be induced to follow the example of his namesake of old, Peter the Hermit, and preach a crusade—in this case against popular indifference and Congressional neglect of a subject so intimately associated with the national integrity and honor as that of the public defence.

Professor Michie drew a graphic picture of the fate that would overtake the city of New York, if the machinery of civil administration were destroyed, and the city given over to the control of its criminal classes, now held under restraint by the police and the courts.

The elements of our national police, and of our courts of last resort in international disputes, are, he then showed, strong forts, defended by modern ordnance and an armored fleet, with a reasonably strong army and navy. For many years our forts have been suffered to fall into decay, our Navy is rotting in our harbors, our ordnance is practically worthless, and our Army is a mere attenuated shadow, stretched along a coast over three thousand miles in extent; and we are to-day practically at the mercy of any foreign power that chooses to declare war against us.

A picture of the Atlantic coast was thrown on the scene by the stereopticon, and the three great bays into which it is divided were pointed out.

"The first extends from New Brunswick to the outlying islands and banks of Cape Cod. The second embraces the large and deep indentation from Narragansett to Cape Hatteras, and the third from Cape Hatteras to the straits of Florida. On the south we have the Gulf coast, extending from the Florida Keys to the Rio Grande, and on the west are the stretches from San Diego to Cape Mendocino, and thence to Vancouver, B. C.

"Standing out like a watch tower near the centre of the Atlantic coast are the Bermudas belonging to Great Britain. This power has also the important harbor and naval station of Halifax on the northern flank, and stations at Nassau, Jamaica and elsewhere on the southern flank. France and Spain have likewise outlying positions in the West Indies capable of becoming rendezvous for their fleets, to strike or threaten various points of our coast in case of war with them.

"The important points in the Gulf subject, to capture are Galveston, the mouths of the Mississippi, Mobile, Pensacola and Florida Keys. On the Atlantic coast we have the more important harbors Savannah, Port Royal, Charleston, Chesapeake, Delaware, New York, Long Island Sound, Narragansett, Nantucket, Boston, Portsmouth and Portland. The Atlantic coast is therefore bound to be the theatre of immediate and active operations in case of war with European powers; for our western coast we must guard against these as well as China and Japan.

"To secure our harbors from capture, they must be defended by strong works, capable of resisting the heaviest artillery that can be floated in armored cruisers, and as accessory means the harbors must be thoroughly well planted with torpedoes under the protection of the forts. To make the defence other than passive a navy of at least three fleets for the Atlantic coast alone must be created; for from the configuration of the coast you see that each of these fleets must remain within the bay which it protects and cannot be relied on for protection elsewhere. Each fleet must be of a strength proportioned to the importance of the position covered, and at least equal in offensive power to any that is likely to be opposed to it. But the true function of the Navy is aggressive, and therefore the perfect system requires other armored cruisers sufficiently formidable to drive off, capture, or destroy any enemy's vessel that may venture too near. Such in brief are the essential elements for the security of our coasts."

Our Present System of Coast Defences.

Tracing the history of our present system of coast defence Prof. Michie showed that it was the growth of three distinct epochs:

"1. Those that grew out of the political agitations attending the French Revolution of 1789 and the wars

consequent thereon. France, then a weak naval power, was fully occupied at home and in pressing her continental campaign; therefore these works were small and temporary in character.

"2. On the approach of the war of 1812 the obvious inadequacy of existing forts led to large appropriations for fortifications; so that when war broke out there was not a town of any magnitude on the coast unprovided with one or more batteries. Every place within reach of an enemy's marauding expedition called for this kind of protection, and there is no doubt that the defences supplied saved the country from great losses. These defences were also small and weak, and being built for the sake of present economy of cheap materials and workmanship were very perishable. The Government aware of this weakness called out to their support vast bodies of militia at enormous expense, covering these troops with extensive lines of field works.

"3. The war with England being over, the Government promptly entered upon the permanent system of coast defences, and to that end constituted a Board of Engineers, with instructions to make examinations and plans subject to revision of the Chief of Engineers and sanction of the Secretary of War, and this third system has been ever since 1816 in process of construction.

"The defences of the coast were arranged into classes according to the relative importance of the proposed works in order of time and were as far as possible constructed according to that order. Up to the breaking out of the Civil War we had nothing to be ashamed of in the character of our coast defences. Considering the time, and the development of heavy artillery, they were ample and sufficient, and although not in a completed state, their construction was quite well advanced."

Development of Modern Navies.

Next followed a description of various types of our existing forts, with stereopticon views illustrating them, and it was shown that our system of defence is practically as it stood in 1861, while all other great nations have made immense strides in advance of us to meet the new necessities of this age of iron and steel. With the ironclads and torpedoes that we have introduced to modern warfare, we have pointed the way, which others have followed, leaving us immeasurably behind. "England in 1865 had the *Bellerophon* with 6-in. armor; in 1870 the *Hercules* with 11-in. and shortly after the *Monarch* and *Captain* with 12-in. on the sides and nearly 15-in. on the turrets. During the period from 1870-1875, the *Thunderer*, *Devastation* and *Glatton* with 14-in. armor appeared. Finally in 1876 the *Infexible* was launched."

With the help of the stereopticon the last vessel was described in detail.

"On the same type, two other vessels, the *Ajaz* and *Agamemnon* were commenced in 1876, and subsequently the *Colossus*, *Conqueror* and *Majestic* were laid down. In these latter vessels steel replaces the iron in the armor.

"In 1876 Italy launched the *Duilio*, a mastless turret ship of 10,570 tons, plated with 21 5-in. steel armor, and carrying 4 17.5-in. 100 ton guns, and in 1878 followed this with the *Dandolo*, similar in all the essential features of construction and armament. Both vessels belong to the *Infexible* type and each costs nearly four million dollars. In 1880 the *Italia*, of 13,851 tons, was launched, and her sister ship, the *Lepanto*, is now under construction. Both of these vessels embody the highest development of modern mechanical skill, and indeed require nearly three years for their completion.

"What then is the condition of the European navies? Not counting the unarmored war vessels, nor those with partly wooden hulls, we find that Great Britain has over 60 iron or steel-hulled armored-plated war vessels, either in commission or in preparation with a total armament of nearly 500 rifled guns, ranging from the powerful 80-ton 16-in. to the very respectable 6 1/2 ton gun. France close behind, with 33 similar vessels, has among that number two very powerful iron clads, armed with 100 ton guns; Russia with 26 armored vessels; Germany with 25; Holland, 25; Italy, 12; Austria, 13; Turkey, 17; Sweden and Norway, 14, and Spain, Denmark, Portugal and Greece with several each.

"Of the South American States Brazil has 10; the Argentine Republic 3, and Chili 3. Even China has a navy of 31 vessels and many of them armed with modern ordnance.

Growth of Modern Systems of Ordnance.

The progress in the development of rifled ordnance was next pointed out. "Cast iron gave way to wrought iron. Wrought iron improved in quality, and the workmen developed greater skill in manipulating it into masses of proper form and structure. Steel could be got in larger ingots than heretofore, and finally, from all of these trials and efforts, two great systems of gun construction have sprung into being, and supplanted all others. These are the German, or Krupp, system of cast-steel guns, which are found all over Europe, except in England, and the English, or Woolwich, system, of built-up wrought-iron guns. In this latter system the gun consists of a steel tube surrounded by several hollow cylinders, formed of bars of wrought iron, coiled, welded, and then shrunk on, one over the other. This principle of shrinkage has been of the greatest service in enabling the gun-makers to bring into play the strength of the exterior coils. Formerly the whole of the pressure caused by the expanding gas was resisted by the inner part of the gun; and its limit of resistance was soon reached. This improvement in re-

sisting power goes hand-in-hand with that in gunpowder. Twenty-five years ago powder was powder. The almost instantaneous transfer into gas produced a pressure short and quick, after the manner of a blow, and without developing a very high velocity. With the large-grained, slow-burning powder now used, long, heavy shells move quietly off under the impulse of a gradual evolution of gas, the pressure of which continues to increase until the projectile has moved a foot or more; then ensues a contest between the increasing volume of the gas, tending to raise the pressure, and the growing space behind the advancing shot tending to relieve it. As artillery science advances, so does the duration of this contest extend further along the bore toward the great desideratum—a low maximum pressure long sustained.

Attention was next directed to a model of the projectile of the old 10 in. smooth bore gun, which our forts were built to withstand, as contrasted with a similar model of the projectile from the 100 ton rifled gun, which they must in fact encounter. The old projectile weighs 125 lbs., and its striking energy at 1,000 yards is, assuming a high initial velocity of 1,600 feet, 1,100 foot tons. The other weighs a ton, is fired with a quarter of a ton of powder and with a velocity of over 1,500 feet, and has a striking energy thirty times that of the 10 in., or 33,000 foot tons, and with the improvement in the breech arrangement of these heavy guns and the mechanical contrivances for handling them it is now possible to plant one of these projectiles at a distance of a thousand yards within the space of an ordinary door. Pictures illustrating the penetration powers of these modern guns were shown, and the lecturer said: "The latest improvements in gun construction lead to the conviction that the gun of the future will be formed of steel-ribbon wire wrapped under great tension about the steel tube, suitably arranged also to resist the great longitudinal strain caused by the enormous pressure of the great-sized modern cartridges. Such guns are now being tested, and the results are awaited with the greatest interest."

The Peril of New York.

Prof. Michie next gave an account of the trial of armor plates at Spezzia, so fully described in the JOURNAL of Jan. 13. To illustrate the resisting power of the Schneider plates the lecturer said: "Here is a model of the projectile, carefully constructed as to size. It represents a ton of steel. Suppose it moving with its striking velocity; it would pass from Central Park to the Battery in a quarter of a minute. The beautiful obelisk brought from Egypt by Comdr. Goringe weighs 224 tons. If you were to raise it vertically 150 feet high and let it drop it would strike the pavement with the smashing effect with which this projectile struck that plate. The work you would have to do to raise that mass of stone to the supposed height would be given up to the grinding, pulverizing, and smashing effect when it reached the pavement. But it would be spread over an area of about 60 square feet. If you suppose all this concentrated in a thirtieth part the surface, you have an idea of what work this projectile carried to destroy the plate. Whatever artillery we have mounted to day for the defence of our harbor are mere pea shooters compared with this. Suppose war to occur with Italy and one of her four vessels thus armored should appear off the harbor, what ransom would New York pay to escape few such compliments as this?"

To show how the repeated and urgent recommendations of our military authorities that something should be done to increase our means of defence have been disregarded, Prof. Michie said:

"Our entire armament, exclusive of the rifled guns left us by the civil war, and a few trial and converted guns, is represented by two 20-in., about 325 15 in. and nearly 1800 10 in. smooth bore guns, of which only about 125 of the latter have been converted into 8 in. rifles. Sandy Hook, by the project of 1874, was to have an armament of 103 10 in. rifles; there are none there. The works at the Narrows 233 heavy guns; I am sure that there are not 50 serviceable guns at this most important point, and even these are not at all capable of inflicting the slightest damage upon, or of stopping a modern war vessel, like the *Infexible*, intent on steaming by to destroy New York City, or laying it under tribute."

To support this conjecture, the recent bombardment of Alexandria was recalled, and some account of it given. In contrast with the picture of our forts previously shown, the lecturer presented some views of the works recently erected in Europe for harbor defence, taking as types the chilled cast iron works of the Gruson system, at Fort St. Marie, one of the defences of Antwerp, and the turret for the two 80-ton guns, at Dover pier, in England.

Our Only Hope—Torpedo Defences.

Turning next to that branch of our service which presents a more gratifying spectacle, Professor Michie proceeded to describe the work of building up a system of torpedo defence, which has been in progress since 1869, at the Engineer School of Practice at Willet's Point. He said: "Considerable progress had been made by foreign nations up to this time, but nothing had been done by us beyond that which the Confederates had developed in the civil war. Our system had, therefore, to be constructed from the beginning, and this duty was confided to the commandant at Willet's Point, General H. L. Abbot, of the Corps of Engineers. A distinguished graduate of West Point, his scientific services peculiarly fitted him for thorough investigation of the intricate questions involved. A most

gallant soldier during the civil war, possessing the highest possible sense of devotion to duty, indefatigable, clear in judgment, and thoroughly alive to the vast importance of the problem, he has given to the country a completed system that will ever be a monument to his distinguished worth. I wish I had the time to exhibit to you his progress, as he built up, step by step, his thoroughly tested and almost perfect system. I am sure you would be immensely gratified, and would be proud of the skill and devotion of this officer, and recognize that whatever of security we have to-day we owe it to his labor."

What General Abbot has Accomplished.

After exhibiting some pictures, to show the effect of explosions, the lecturer summarized the results of the Willet's Point experiments as follows:

"We know the laws which govern subaqueous explosions as far as they can be practically applied to the destruction of foreign ships of war. We have the means of measuring exactly the intensity of the explosion and determining the dangerous space. We know the relative value of explosive mixtures and compounds, and have selected the best now available for our particular service. We have investigated the value of the different electrical forces—the methods of ignition—the means for generating the electrical currents to explode the mines, and have properly arranged them so that the torpedo may be exploded by contact or at the will of the operator, or make known the fact that a vessel is within the dangerous zone. We have a torpedo which will resist long continued exposure to the action of sea water, to the never ceasing motion of the waves and tides, to the shock of friendly vessels and the explosion of neighboring mines. It will not leak; it has the maximum strength and maximum displacement for minimum weight, and is charged with concealed power under perfect control sufficient to destroy any vessel that floats."

Next exhibiting pictures showing the grouping of buoyant torpedoes in sets, to offer an impassable barrier to the enemy's fleet, Prof. Michie said:

"Here you see the main defensive line, formed of 7 groups of three torpedoes each. The particular disposition of each line will of course depend on the special channel to be defended. In advance there will be other torpedoes forming a skirmishing line to the main line, and the whole channel is so planted as to make it impossible for a vessel following any course drawn at random to avoid coming in contact with at least one torpedo—and one means destruction. We see, also, that these lines are arranged to be defended by certain batteries of the forts. By electrical connection these batteries may be discharged at the instant the integrity of the line is assailed, and the batteries may be loaded and trained upon any particular group which may be the first to be disturbed."

"Such is the intimate knowledge of the operation with regard to his line that by the proper tests he can know at once the condition of each mine in the system. He can tell whether leaks or faults exist, and exactly where they are located. In time of war when the channel is blocked, friendly vessels may pass, and in an instant the passage may be barred to an enemy in pursuit. The movement of a plug, or the turn of a switch, alone serves to send the vessel to the bottom and her crew to destruction."

"In addition to these torpedoes of a purely defensive type it was also deemed highly necessary to have for our harbors a self-moving torpedo, and investigations have lately been made at Willet's Point looking to the perfection of such a vessel. The essential conditions of such a weapon are, that it shall move with great speed, be concealed from view by submergence, only so far as is consistent with perfect control, and sufficiently so, to be well protected from the fire of machine guns and be ready to start off at a moment's notice. It should have an extreme range of at least two miles and sufficient capacity to be charged with at least 350 pounds of dynamite. Its mechanism must be simple and its motive power under easy and perfect control. It should be capable of being exploded at will or on contact, and be safe from accidental explosions. These conditions, it is believed, have all been fulfilled in a design known as Sim's Fish Torpedo, which will now be shown."

"Now, it will be admitted by every one that a harbor properly defended by such a system of submarine mines, operated in connection with land fortifications, cannot be entered by a hostile fleet without some preliminary clearing of the channel. The days are past for running by such positions, trusting simply to speed as a protection. To attack a mined area, in a channel defended by electrical torpedoes, is an exceedingly hazardous operation, and it must involve successive attempts directed to opening a navigable passage of known location through the obstructions. The power of sending out self-moving torpedoes at high speed, under perfect control, will seriously interfere with such an operation. Again, if a distant bombardment be attempted, its range will doubtless be increased and its precision diminished by the knowledge that an attack may be expected at any instant from a torpedo of this kind. Finally, if an armored fleet, or even a single vessel, force the passage, it will be of the highest utility to follow her up and render any stoppage a perilous experiment."

"In conclusion, I think it is clearly established from what I have said, that:

"1. Our existing fortifications are practically valueless as works of defence."

"2. Our present Navy is not at all competent to cope with that of any other maritime power."

"3. Such guns as we have are not sufficiently powerful to offer the slightest obstacle to the passage of a foreign fleet into our harbors, and such as they are, are too few to arm the works, poor as they are. Even had we unlimited means to establish the plans, and skilled artificers to construct, we could not in three years make a sufficient number to properly arm and defend our important harbors; and we are not likely now to get the guns for five years."

"4. On the entire coast from Maine to Florida, from Florida to the Rio Grande, and along the whole Pacific coast, we have only 55 companies of artillery troops, reduced to the peace standard of 200 officers and 2,000 men—the only force we can rely on in case of coast attack to garrison the forts and serve the guns."

"5. While we have a splendid torpedo service, we have no means at present of properly protecting the system of each harbor, to get from them their greatest efficiencies, nor of preventing their capture and destruction by the enemy. The troops needed for its service are more than usually intelligent, and number now only 150 men."

"What is our immediate danger? It lies in the probability of war with a maritime power. Are there any questions of a disturbing character likely to arise in the near future? Fisheries on the Northern Coast, the Panama Canal on the South—questions touching the personal and commercial interests of our citizens in the Spanish West Indies, and the complications of Chinese questions on the Pacific. What shall be our attitude when these questions arise and demand settlement? When our interests are involved shall we sacrifice them? When our honor is assailed must we retire with what dignity we can? When our flag is insulted shall we brook the insult?"

"In a well-studied paper, by a high military authority of Canada, read in 1879 before the Royal United Service Institution of London, the possibility of a war with this country was ably discussed. Standing out prominently as the greatest grievance was the fact that our Northern State of Maine projects well into Canada, and cuts it off from what they regard as their natural, all the year open, outlet to the Atlantic, the harbor of Portsmouth. And that their best efforts would be directed in case of war with us to splitting this slice no one can doubt. Indeed, the line of invasion by the Hudson River, or across to Boston or Portsmouth, in co-operation with a naval attack on New York City or Boston Bay, was rather prominently dwelt upon in the paper referred to. We are full of confidence in our ability to maintain the integrity of our territory against all comers."

"But so was France in 1870. We need something more than confidence—we want assurance made doubly sure."

"We are not poor. Did we not appropriate many millions last year for rivers and harbors? Do we not give one hundred million a year to invalid and pension soldiers? We certainly can afford something for defence, and we need it immediately. You have the best educated and most gallant naval officers of any service—the best qualified engineer, ordnance and artillery officers to be found in any army. They stand ready to devise, create, build and defend, but you must not expect them to make bricks without straw. The people by their sovereign will force Congress to pass a Civil Service Reform bill—most unpalatable to them—and when the people awaken to their serious danger they will find their servants at Washington ready to listen again to the only voice which speaks by sovereign authority in this country."

PERSONAL ITEMS.

LIEUT. G. J. Fieberger, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., has rejoined at Whipple Barracks, A. T., from a trip to Fort Huachuca.

At a banquet given at Omaha, Feb. 12, to Senator-elect C. F. Manderson, numerous Army officers were present, including Gen. O. O. Howard, Gen. Thomas Wilson, Col. Mason, Col. Stanton, Capt. Sladen, A. D. C., Col. J. H. Taylor, and Major Farey. Gen. Howard, in an excellent speech responded for "The Army." He referred to the war record of Gen. Manderson, made from Missionary Ridge to Knoxville, from Tunnell Hill through Buzzard Roost, Dalton, Resaca, Adairsville, Cassville, New Hope Church, Pickett's Mill, Muddy Creek, Pine Top, Kenasaw Ridge, Marietta, Smyrna Camp Ground, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, and Lovejoy Station. In conclusion he said: "The instant there is a political call for economy, it is always begun by cutting down the Army and Navy. And foremost is the attack upon the junior officer's pay and allowances. It comes from a popular idea that he has too much leisure. On a salary simply one that is to extend through his life, and one that can never by the strictest economy make him rich, but one that seldom leaves him anything for his daughters and for old age, it is hardly right to grudge him all the leisure he can properly get. He does all the duty which his profession demands. Shall we punish and disable him because the railroad conductor and the diligent compositor work harder than he? But I assure you that the officer who does his whole duty is no idler. Our Army should be ever the nucleus of our millions of men, the epitome of order and system, the grand national police, the up-bearer of pluck, patriotism and perpetuity. So, Gen. Manderson give us a snug little force; put it in complete order; favor the appropriations for its homes in peace, its permanent posts, for a healthful promotion and proper pensions for its worn-out and battle-scarred veterans, in Indian, no less than in other, battles; and I believe that all generous citizens will say, 'Well done.'"

Gen. Wilson, U. S. A., responded for "The Navy," in a speech in which sound sense and humor were admirably blended.

We note from the Register of De Veaux College, Niagara County, N. Y., that Lieut. Henry Kirby, 10th U. S. Infantry, of Fort Porter, N. Y., is military commandant and instructor in tactics. We understand this efficient young officer attends most zealously to those duties in his spare time, without any interference with his regular garrison duty.

CAPT. FRANK E. TAYLOR, 1st U. S. Artillery, of Vancouver Barracks, will spend a couple of months with his friends in Washington and elsewhere. During his absence Lieut. R.

H. Patterson will command the Light Battery at Vancouver. CAPT. JOHN T. MORRISON, and Lieut. C. H. GRIERSON, 10th U. S. Cavalry, rejoined Feb. 7 and 10, respectively, at Fort Davis, Texas, having surrendered the unexpired portions of their leaves.

CAPT. J. T. HASKELL, 23d Infantry, lately on leave at New Rochelle, N. Y., reported this week to Col. La Motte, at David's Island, to conduct recruits to the West, and then join his company at Fort Craig, N. M.

CAPT. S. M. SWIGERT and Lieut. F. W. SIBLEY and F. D. HOLTON, U. S. A., sat as a board this week at Fort Custer, Montana, to inquire into the loss by fire at Merrill, Montana, last November, of public property, for which Lieut. C. A. BOOTH, 7th Infantry, was accountable.

The departure of Lieut. E. A. GARLINGTON, 7th Cavalry, for Washington, preparatory to his expedition to Lady Franklin Bay, is much regretted at Fort Buford, D. T., and his many friends, there and elsewhere, look forward to seeing him back again safe and sound.

Mrs. HAROLD, mother of David Harold, who was hanged July 5, 1865, for complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln, died recently.

THE NEW MEXICAN, advertising to General Sherman's recent speech on the occasion of his 63d birthday, says: "And now, when peace for sixteen years has performed her offices, one of the leading spirits of the mighty contest, and one of its most successful leaders, and the chief of our noble Army, declares there is peace, and all bitterness is destroyed—it is time for the politicians of the country to align themselves upon the newer and better policy of universal toleration and broader charity for the men of the lately erring States."

LIEUT. G. W. MENTZ, U. S. Navy, sailed from New York for Antwerp on the *Wassland*, Feb. 17.

RHODE ISLAND having voted \$7,500 and the city of Newport \$5,000 the citizens thereof have arranged for the remaining \$2,500, required for the naval statue to Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, of Lake Erie fame.

LIEUT. P. P. POWELL, U. S. A., registered at Guy's Hotel, Baltimore, early in the week, en route to New York, on special private business.

COL. GRANVILLE O. HALLER, U. S. A., who was retired last March, is now living at Seattle, Washington Territory, where he intends to spend the remainder of his useful life. Mrs. Haller has lately had a severe attack of typhoid fever, but is now convalescent. The Colonel is a veteran, having served in the Seminole war, the Mexican war, the war of the rebellion and several Indian engagements on the Western frontier. He entered the Army in 1839 at the age of 20.

THE PRESIDENT of the Ohio State University, in his 12th annual report for 1882, pays a high compliment to the military branch of the Institution in charge of Lieut. George RUBLEN, 17th U. S. Infantry. He says: "The battalion of Cadets is in a very excellent condition. There are now over 200 students in the ranks. They are organized into four companies. No able-bodied student is excused from the requirements of the drill, except a very few, who are excused for want of means to purchase the uniform. The drill takes place four times a week, and occupies three-quarters of an hour at noon. It is made a part of every course of studies up to the beginning of the junior year. I beg leave to record my appreciation of this most excellent feature of our University system, and to declare my judgment that no equal portion of time devoted to other work in any department of the University produces larger and better results than the drill in all that relates to the education of the citizen."

GEN. R. S. MACKENZIE, U. S. A., is visiting in the west. Rumors as to his post of command, on rejoining from leave, are still current, but as there will doubtless be some changes before then, nothing definite is yet announced.

GEN. G. A. DE RASSY, U. S. A., and family, are residing at Detroit, but have scarcely found it so genial of late as St. Augustine, their previous place of residence.

THE annual dinner of the Titans, the greatest classical mythological feast of the year, will shortly take place. The organization has reached its third year, and includes among its members many well known men. The majority of the members reach the height of 6 feet 5 inches, and some tower above that, even up to 7 feet. Among those who have lately been admitted to membership is Col. A. K. SMITH, surgeon, U. S. A.

LIEUT. E. S. JACOB, U. S. N., has entered upon duty at the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

CAPT. GEORGE SHORCKLEY, 15th U. S. Inf., has been spending his leave at Leavenworth so as to avail himself of treatment for his deafness by Asst. Surgeon Victor BIART, U. S. A., who is a specialist in such matters.

COL. J. J. COPPINGER, U. S. A., and bride are expected every day now to rejoin at Fort Leavenworth, where their residence has been "put in order" for them. The acquisition of Mrs. Coppinger to the social circle of the Fort is a source of much congratulation.

GEN. D. H. RUCKER, U. S. A., retired, is expected soon to visit old friends at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

LIEUT. W. S. EDGERLY, 7th U. S. Cav., lately assigned to charge of the Cavalry recruiting rendezvous at Cincinnati, may be transferred to similar duty at Boston next autumn.

CAPT. D. D. WHEELER, U. S. A., has returned to St. Paul from St. Louis and resumed charge of his office, having completed his duties in connection with the Board to purchase cavalry horses.

THE NORFOLK LANDMARK says: Joseph Guthrie has been appointed a naval cadet. He is the youngest son of Captain J. J. Guthrie, formerly Master, U. S. N., who lost his life while attempting to render aid to the survivors of the *Huron*.

A *Tribune* correspondent writes: "I was talking to Gen. Sherman last week about his early days in Lancaster, Ohio. He said that his mother had only \$200 income when her husband died, and eleven children on her hands, and that Thos. Ewing, Sr., having experienced some kindness from Sherman's father—'though,' said Gen. Sherman, 'my father did not begin to have the ability of Ewing'—the latter told Mrs. Sherman he wanted to bring up one of the boys as his own. She was loath to lose any one of them, but Ewing insisted and thought of taking two others, respectively. 'But,' said the General, with a grunt of laughter, 'they said I was the smartest and he must take me.' 'Was Secretary Ewing a man to give much time to children?' I asked. 'No,' answered Gen. Sherman; 'but he was a very just man. He was steady and unwavering where he had made up his mind to help anybody. I took my chance with the rest of the boys, was treated neither better nor worse, and he sent me to West Point. He was one of the greatest men of his country,' said Sherman. 'He was an ingrained Whig, and when Harrison was elected, that old General was a mere shell and was entirely the construction of the positive spirits like Thomas Ewing, who rallied about him and held him up.' Said I: 'General, that march of yours to the sea was a very big thing.' 'Pshaw!' said Sherman, 'going to the sea was not the thing at all. That took me too far on my right flank. The genius of that march was after I left Savannah, when I went straight for Joe Johnston's army, and there I should have gone in the first place but for a political and popular belief that I must communicate with the fleet and get provisions.'"

THE Leavenworth *Times* says: "A most pleasant social musical party was enjoyed at the residence of Chaplain McCleery, U. S. A., Feb. 12. A large number of musical friends and admirers of Miss McCleery, the accomplished pianist, had gathered on the occasion of her birthday, and after taking Miss McCleery completely by surprise proceeded to make themselves and everybody else happy and joyful by the execution of a number of select pieces of vocal and instrumental music. Chaplain and Mrs. McCleery did the honors of the evening and had thoughtfully spread a bountiful lunch for the guests, which all appreciated most thoroughly. Dr. Biart, United States Army, of course managed the musical programme, a novel feature of which was a number of original pieces, vocal and instrumental, dedicated to Miss McCleery. The players and singers from the post were Dr. Biart, Miss Otis, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Matile, Mrs. McNaught, Lieut. Carter, Lieut. McCoy and Dr. McNary. Birthday surprises, when managed by such gentlemen as Dr. Biart and Dr. McNary, are happy affairs."

COL. M. M. Blunt, Captains Gaines Lawson, F. G. Smith, and S. E. Blunt and Lieut. J. A. Lundeen, U. S. A., will sit at Fort Snelling, Minn., during March, to examine meritorious non-commissioned officers in General Terry's Department, recommended for commissions.

LIEUT. R. J. C. Irvine, 11th U. S. Infantry, left Fort Leavenworth Feb. 13, to visit friends at Augusta, Ga., to be absent about a month.

MAJOR General J. Pope seems to be a favorite in New Mexico, as at every point on his present tour of inspection he has been received with public demonstrations of respect and admiration.

MAJOR Lewis Merrill, 7th Cavalry, was in St. Paul a few days ago, returning to duty at Fort Yates from his recent visit to the East, with the remains of Mrs. Merrill.

ASST. Surgeon P. J. A. Cleary, U. S. A., at last accounts, residing at Athens, Tenn., is still in poor health, and in consequence granted an extension of sick leave until May 3d next.

CAPT. O. P. Eagan, U. S. A., General Crook's Chief Commissary, now on leave, is expected to rejoin at Whipple barracks early in March.

THE Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Chandler gave a dinner party February 17 to the British Minister, the Turkish Minister, Senators Anthony, Aldrich, Beck, Logan, Dawes, Sherman, Jones, of Nevada; the Speaker of the House, Representatives Russell, Harris, Blackburn, Morse, Reed and Cannon, and Mr. Phillips.

GEN. George Thom, U. S. A., registered at the Grand Hotel, Paris, France, Feb. 18.

MAJOR General I. McDowell, U. S. A., has returned to San Francisco, and been warmly welcomed to his home, as that city may now be considered.

LIEUT. General Sheridan and Mrs. Sheridan have returned to Chicago after an enjoyable visit to Washington, D. C.

LIEUT. P. M. Price, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., and Mrs. Price are on the way East from Portland, Oregon. Lieut. Price is recovering from the injuries received in Oregon while engaged in blasting operations.

WE regret to learn of the death at Bronxville, N. Y., Feb. 9, of the infant son, an only child of Major A. E. Latimer, U. S. Army, retired.

GEN. F. T. Dent, U. S. A., who is at St. Augustine, is still an invalid and unable to resume active duty for the present, at least.

In the death-roll of the Army for 1882, we find some names distinguished in the history of our country, including those of Generals George D. Ramsay, Silas Casey, John Barnard, George H. Crooman, Sidney Burbank, F. D. Callender, Governor E. Warren, Old Martin Burke, Richard Arnold, Col. George W. Patten, Harvey A. Allen and R. S. Williamson. Their places have been filled, but to many who yet survive the mention of their names will evoke memories of that compact little Army of the past which accomplished so much with so little, and has permanently enlarged our frontiers by the addition of an empire to our territory.

GEN. H. J. Hunt, U. S. A., is now the oldest officer in point of service on the active list of the Army, dating from July 1, 1839. Generals Sherman and Getty date from July 1, 1840.

DOCTOR C. C. Miller, U. S. A., has been added to the medical staff of Fort Shaw, M. T.

MAJOR-GENERAL Pope, U. S. A., and staff have returned to Fort Leavenworth from an exceedingly pleasant official trip to New Mexico.

ASST. SURG. R. W. Johnson, U. S. A., who has been on a visit to his parents at St. Paul, rejoined a few days ago at Fort Buford.

CAPT. E. M. Coates, 4th U. S. Infantry, and Lieut. J. G. Ballance, 23d U. S. Infantry, were in St. Paul the latter part of last week, the former at the Southern and the latter at the Planter's.

THE death, Feb. 17, of Major V. K. Hart, 5th Cavalry, promotes Captain Louis H. Carpenter, 10th Cavalry, to Major 5th Cavalry; 1st Lieutenant B. H. Pratt, 10th Cavalry, in charge of the Indian School at Carlisle, to a captaincy, and 2d Lieutenant J. S. Jouett, 10th Cavalry, to a 1st lieutenantcy.

CAPT. John H. Higbee, U. S. Marine Corps, now stationed at the Marine Barracks, Boston, Mass., is ordered to relieve Captain McLane Tilton, U. S. M. C., of the command of the marines at the Washington Navy-yard, March 12, 1883. Capt. Tilton relieves Capt. Huntington at Annapolis.

A DESPATCH of Feb. 19, from Miles City, Montana, states that Gen. James S. Brislin, U. S. A., lectured at Billings, Feb. 17, and in the course of his lecture referred to the Custer massacre, and said if Gen. Custer had obeyed instructions from Gen. Terry it was probable that he and his command would be living to-day. The death of Custer and his men was a useless and unnecessary sacrifice, brought about by Custer's desire for glory and promotion. He read documents to prove his position and exonerated Reno from all blame in the battle of Little Big Horn. As Gen. Brislin was the next cavalry officer in rank to Gen. Custer, and succeeded the latter when he fell, his remarks produced a great sensation.

THE Fort Smith (Ark.) *Daily Herald*, of Feb. 10, says: We had the honor of a call yesterday from Col. Guy V. Henry, commandant at Fort Sill, I. T. Col. Henry was born on the reservation adjacent to Fort Smith in the year 1839; his father Guy Henry was an officer in the infantry service at the time. Both father and son are graduates of West Point, the father being of the class of 1835, and the son of the class of 1861. By a somewhat singular coincidence the son yesterday for the first time since his entrance into the world visits the place of his birth. Col. Henry is a fine specimen of the soldier arm of the service, and converses with a grace and fluency characteristic of the well-bred gentleman. The finer qualities of his nature have not been obscured by his contact with arms. Some of our older citizens will doubtless remember his father, and will be pleased to make the acquaintance of the son, who fitly represents his popular and accomplished ancestor. Col. Henry is stopping at the Rowland House, and is an important witness for the prosecution against the negro French, charged with killing two Federal soldiers near Fort Sill, and for which crime he is to be tried before the United States District Court at this place. We trust Col. Henry will find his stay here a pleasant one, and that he may realize like McGregor, that his "wandering feet are once more upon his native heath," and that he may regard Fort Smith like sweet Auburn, "as the loveliest village of the plain."

LIEUT. G. H. Roach, 17th U. S. Infantry; Captain R. H. Montgomery, 5th Cavalry, and Paymaster H. S. Standcliff, U. S. N., were visitors at Omaha last week.

THE San Francisco *Report* of February 10 says: "Major Sanford, 1st Cavalry, is due at his station, Fort Halleck, in a few days, returning from leave of absence. Capt. A. T. Smith has returned to his station at Benicia Barracks from court martial duty at Fort McDermitt, Nevada. Captain Eagan, Chief Commissary Department of Arizona, is in the city on a brief visit. Capt. J. N. Andrews returned to his station at Benicia Barracks, Tuesday, from court martial duty at Fort McDermitt, Nev. Capt. and Mrs. Haskell, 12th Infantry, arrived from Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., during the week. The captain is on leave of absence, and will remain several weeks. Paymaster Frank H. Clark and Cadet Engineer W. W. Wood, of the *Adams*, who arrived on the down trip of the *Elder*, on duty connected with their vessel, returned to Sitka to-day. Pay Director Schenck's young son, Robert, who was thrown from his bicycle by hoodlums, last Saturday, and seriously injured, is progressing favorably, and is pronounced out of danger. Chief Engineer Robert Potts, who has been at the Naval Hospital at Mare Island, for some weeks, for treatment for an affection of the throat, has so far recovered as to be able to rejoin his ship, and sails for the North to-day. Col. Montgomery Bryant visited Angel Island yesterday, evidently for the purpose of seeing the post and ascertaining how he would like it in the event of his being ordered to take station there during the absence of Gen. Kautz. Col. Wherry, A. D. C. to Gen. Schofield, left for the East, Thursday, on four months' leave. Sickness in his family has hastened the departure of this popular officer from our midst. Should the clause in Logan's bill relating to the Army, limiting the service of aide-de-camp to three years, become a law, Colonel Wherry will probably not return to San Francisco.

THE officers of the 5th U. S. Infantry, desirous of testifying their admiration and respect for their former colonel, Gen. Nelson A. Miles, have presented him with a testimonial in the shape of a large shield of solid silver, about two feet

in length, heart shaped, and on its face the following inscription: "Presented to Gen. Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A., by the officers of the 5th U. S. Infantry, as a token of personal esteem and of their estimate of his distinguished services, in which unequalled successes over savages in the war were paralleled by humanity and justice towards the thousands of Indians whom he took captive and instructed in the arts of civilization." Over the top of the shield is the head of an American eagle, bearing in his beak laurel and olive branches, denoting "Victory and Peace." Below this is a bronze bas-relief bust of Gen. Miles—an excellent likeness. Below this, in full relief, are representations of warlike implements, both civilized and savage. Around these central objects, engraved in a most artistic and beautiful manner upon the white silver, are eight scenes of border life, such as Gen. Miles has experienced in his dangerous Indian campaigns. Around the border framework of the shield in large letters of bright silver relieved by dark groundwork, are the names of the States and Territories in which Gen. Miles's Indian campaigns were laid. They are Texas, Indian Territory, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico and Kansas. The testimonial is now at Portland, Oregon, where it has excited much admiration.

WE regret to learn that 1st Lieut. O. L. Wisting, 23d U. S. Infantry, of Fort Bayard, N. M., has been laid up with a severe attack of acute inflammatory rheumatism.

ORD. SERG. John Graves, U. S. A., of Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., one of our veteran non-commissioned officers who do honor to the service, has, after continuous active duty for nearly forty years, availed himself this week of a six months' furlough.

THE Vancouver *Independent* of Feb. 1 says: Asst. Surg. C. L. Heizmann is transferred from the Department of the Columbia to the Department of the South. Many warm friends in Vancouver will miss Dr. Heizmann very much when he takes his departure. In consequence of the decease of Col. Baker, Capt. A. S. Kimball is announced as Acting Chief Quartermaster of the Department until further orders. Advertising to the death and funeral services of Col. Baker (heretofore reported in the JOURNAL) the *Independent* says: At the close of an address by the Rev. A. S. Nicholson, the coffin was borne from the church, placed in the hearse, and taken to the cemetery, deposited in its resting place, and then three volleys were fired over the grave of one of the biggest hearted men in the United States Army.

THE New South West says: "The ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL has been giving a list of frontier military gentlemen who have recently made money in cattle, ranches, mines, etc. It can add to its collection of names that of Captain Thompson, 4th Cav., who, in addition to his stock in a fine body of mining claims in Eureka, cleared about \$10,000 on a recent mining sale made by him." Capt. Thompson is one of the lucky ones. Most of our Army investors in mines have found it's "mine, miner, minus."

THE Albuquerque *Review* says: "Ex-Lieut. H. O. Flipper is living a retired life in El Paso, engaged in study." The *Lone Star* having published a statement that Mr. Flipper was a brigadier in the Mexican army, that gentleman writes to it angrily as follows: "Ex-Lieut. Flipper is not only not a brigadier in the Mexican service, he is not even in Mexico, nor has he been out of El Paso since Aug. 11, 1882, but he is disgusted, in extreme, with this everlasting twaddle about his being something or other in the Mexican service. He wants it understood once for all that he does not aspire to the Mexican service, nor to any position whatever under the Mexican government, federal or state." Ex-Lieut. Flipper also wishes it understood "that he is not reading law, nor is he preparing himself for a political career, both being, as they have always been, extremely disliked by him and not at all necessary to his existence. Nor is he preparing a lecture or course of lectures on any subject whatever, nor has he any intention of doing so."

OUR Fort Monroe correspondent writes: Last week you gave but a brief account of the marriage here, Feb. 15, of Lieut. Garrard, 4th Artillery, to Miss Lane, I presume because it happened so late in the week. It was a "swell" affair. It took place in the Church of the Centurion—our post church—late in the afternoon, and the edifice was crowded and glittered with uniforms and rich toilets. The ushers were Lieuts. Townsley, Gibson, Rumbough and Benét, all in full uniform. At 5.30 the bride proceeded to the altar, escorted by her parents, Col. W. B. Lane, U. S. A., and Mrs. Lane, the four ushers, and Misses Susie Lane and Thompson. They were met at the altar by the groom and Lieut. F. S. Strong, U. S. A. The marriage service was performed by Chaplain O. E. Herriek, U. S. A., assisted by Rev. F. Peyton Morgan, of Trinity Church, Cleveland, Ohio. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party left the church, and soon afterwards took the steamer to Baltimore. The officers of the garrison, with their ladies, repaired to the wharf, where the Artillery School band had already gone to see the happy pair off on their bridal trip, and wish them *bon voyage*. As the boat moved out their friends on the wharf gave them 38 cheers, and the band playing "Auld Lang Syne." Among the officers present at the marriage were Gen. Geo. W. Getty and family, Col. L. L. Livingston and family, Col. Richard Loder and family, Col. and Mrs. Elder, Maj. and Mrs. Gillies, Surgeon and Mrs. Page, Surgeon and Mrs. Cowdrey, Major and Mrs. Campbell, Maj. Calef, Capt. and Mrs. Ingalls, Capt. and Mrs. Morris, Capt. James Chester, Maj. McConnell, Lieut. Constantine Chase, Adj. and Mrs. Chase, Commande Cooper, and officers of the *Scutarra*, all in full dress uniform, besides numerous friends of the bride and groom.

AT the second annual convention of the Wisconsin National Guard, held at Madison last week, Captain Chas. King, U

Army (retired), read a paper on "Customs of Service," and Lieutenant F. A. Bontelle, 1st U. S. Cavalry, a paper on "Gallery Practice." Both papers were extremely interesting and highly appreciated by the auditors.

A DESPATCH from Washington says: Helen S. Addicks, wife of Paymaster Addicks, of the Navy, has been granted a divorce from her husband by Judge James.

THE death of Captain H. B. Quimby, 25th U. S. Infantry, promotes 1st Lieutenant E. J. Stivers of that regiment to a captaincy, and 2d Lieutenant George Andrews to a 1st lieutenantcy. Captain Stivers is now at Fort Hall, but will likely soon take station at Fort Snelling, where his new company is.

LIEUT. J. A. Dapray, 23d U. S. Infantry, for some time East on leave, is to report to Colonel Shafter to accompany recruits to the Department of the Missouri, and then to join his company at Fort Union, N. M.

RECENT transfers in the 2d U. S. Artillery retain 1st Lieut. F. O. Gruban at Washington Barracks, D. C., and send 1st Lieut. W. A. Simpson from Fort McHenry to Fort Monroe, and 2d Lieut. G. F. Barney from Washington Barracks to Fort McHenry.

MAJOR A. S. Burt, 9th Infantry, much to the satisfaction of his many friends in Chicago, will have a temporary tour of duty at General Sheridan's Headquarters before joining his new regiment on promotion.

CAPT. Wells Willard, U. S. A., subsistence officer at Cheyenne, has been visiting at Denver, on public business.

GEN. H. D. Wallen, U. S. A., has been lending efficient aid this week in a series of entertainments given at the Madison Avenue Congregational Church, New York.

SCOT. F. L. Town, U. S. A., late of Fort Walla Walla, has taken charge of the Medical Department at the post of Vancouver Barracks.

LIEUT. J. W. Duncan, 21st U. S. Infantry, for some time at Fort Klamath, has been restored to the garrison circle of Vancouver Barracks.

COL. George Thom, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., at present on leave in Europe, was retired from active service Feb. 20, after nearly forty-four years' active service. His retirement promotes Lieutenant-Colonel Q. A. Gillmore, of the Engineers, to colonel; Major W. E. Merrill to lieutenant-colonel; Captain Charles W. Raymond to major, and 1st Lieutenant Francis V. Greene to captain.

LIEUT. E. A. Edwards, U. S. A., en route to the East on leave, registered early this week at the Millard, Omaha.

At last accounts Colonel John Pulford, U. S. A., and Mrs. Pulford were stopping at the Hotel Continental, Paris, France.

THE *Vancouver Independent* of Feb. 8, says: Capt. H. H. Pierce, U. S. A., has been chosen to write a poem to be delivered at the planting of the State University Tree, June 13, at Eugene. Lieut. Fred. G. Schwatka, U. S. A., on Thursday night last gave a lecture in Marsh's Hall, upon his travels and researches in the Arctic regions when on the Franklin search expedition. The hall was well filled, nearly every seat being taken. Lieut. Schwatka has much improved upon the subject matter and delivery of this discourse, and well deserves all the encomiums he has received, both east and west. Those who failed to attend missed a rare treat.

THE *London Saturday Review* doubts whether Gen. Grant would have been successful if he had been originally assigned to the command in Virginia; and it thinks that Gen. McClellan was unlucky, because he had an impracticable task assigned to him and because he was opposed to superior antagonists. It adds, however, that the fortune of war was decided by the loss of Vicksburg and the Mississippi.

THE *Omaha Bee* says: Capt. J. B. Quinn, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., is the able gentleman who will officiate at the entertainment at Crichton College, Feb. 22, in the exhibition of the views of the Holy Land. By an error it was yesterday stated that it was Capt. T. P. Quinn, of Fort Omaha. It appears that there are only two officers of this name in Uncle Sam's service, and curiously enough both are located at Omaha. Hence the ease with which the mistake was made.

LIEUT. Ernest A. Garlington, 7th Cavalry, arrived in Washington this week, and has begun preparations for the proposed relief expedition to Lieut. Greeley.

MAJOR V. K. Hart, 5th U. S. Cavalry, deceased, was a member of the Army Mutual Aid Association. The secretary of the Association, with his usual promptness, has forwarded to the family of the deceased the amount of the net benefit.

THE following are the Army and Navy officers registered at the Ebbitt House during the week ending Feb. 22, 1883: Army—Capt. Charles Holmes, retired; Lieut. B. C. Lockwood, 22d Infantry; Lieut. T. H. Barry, 1st Infantry; Lieut. E. A. Garlington, 7th Cavalry; Lieut. T. M. Woodruff, 5th Infantry. Navy—Cadet Engineer O. C. Gauntner; Lieut. U. Sebree; Capt. W. T. Truxtun; Commodore and Mrs. J. N. Quackenbush; Medical Director T. M. Potter and daughter; Passed Asst. Surg. S. H. Griffith; Chief Eng. J. W. Thomson, Jr.; Midshipman A. G. Rogers; Passed Asst. Surg. Robert Whiting.

THE *Dayton Journal* says, "Col. Anson Mills, U. S. Army, who manufactures 20,000 army cartridge belts for the Government every year, is going to buy the old Harper's Ferry property, and move his factory machinery from Worcester, Mass., thither. The citizens of Harper's Ferry have agreed to contribute \$10,000 toward the purchase money."

GEN. T. W. Sweeney, U. S. A., was present at a dinner at the Westmoreland, N. Y., February 22, of several members of Meagher's Irish Brigade of the famous Second Corps, and pondered for "The Army."

COL. D. W. Flagler, U. S. A., of Rockland, was in Wash-

ington, D. C., this week, after which he started out on a tour of inspection to the several ordnance depots in the country.

AN important general court martial met this week at Fort Clark, Texas, with Major R. F. Bernard, 8th Cavalry, President, and Lieutenant H. Weeks, same regiment, Judge Advocate.

At the Centennial dinner of the Society of the Cincinnati, at New York, February 22, General Grant responded for "The Army," and Commodore Upshur for "The Navy."

LIEUT. F. B. McCoy has been transferred from the 24th to the 3d Infantry, and will shortly join at Fort Shaw, Montana.

CAPT. Kellogg and Lieuts. Bottsford, Burbank, Seyburn and Van Vleet, 10th U. S. Infantry, of Fort Wayne, visited Fort Porter, N. Y., the latter part of the week as witnesses before the Retiring Board examining Lieut. E. R. Clark, 10th Infantry.

THE *Vallejo Chronicle*, advertising to Commodore Phelps being ordered to the command of the South Atlantic Squadron, says: "The news was received here with feelings of the deepest regret, as during his two years sojourn the commodore has made many warm and ardent friends, and the feeling of regret expressed at the receipt of the tidings is universal."

ULYSSES S. Grant, Jr., and wife; Captain Barkley, of the British Navy; Earl Grosvenor, son of the Duke of Westminster, and the Hon. Frederick Lawless, arrived Thursday at New York on the steamship *Servia*.

BARON von Eisendecker, the new German Minister, is a graduate of the Naval School. He came here in 1871 as Executive Officer of the frigate *Ancona*, and he entered the diplomatic service in 1873, when he was detailed for service at Japan. His bride speaks English and French as well as German.

PROF. Simon Newcomb, Chief of the Transit of Venus Expedition to Cape of Good Hope, was in Paris Feb. 2.

THE marriage of Lieut. P. P. Powell, 9th U. S. Cavalry, to Miss Katherine Woodruff Hicks, took place at Danville, N. Y., Feb. 21. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bradner, which was largely attended. After a short tour, the happy couple will go to Fort Sill, I. T., the groom's station. Miss Hicks, as we have before mentioned, is a niece of Mrs. Col. Guy V. Henry, U. S. A., and as Col. Henry and his wife are also at Fort Sill, the bride will find herself at home on arrival there.

THE following Army officers registered at the Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C., during the week ending Feb. 22: 2d Lieut. F. B. McCoy, 24th Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Lieut. Benjamin C. Lockwood, 22d Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Lieut. Joseph Garrard, 4th Artillery, Ebbitt House, on leave; Capt. Frank S. Shoemaker, 4th Cavalry, Ebbitt House, on leave; Capt. Wm. G. Wedemeyer, 16th Infantry, Ebbitt House, on leave.

DURING a tariff wrangle in the House the other day, says the *Tribune*, Mr. Springer exclaimed in a grandiloquent manner that he would rather be right than be President. Mr. Reed looked at him a minute in his big, good-natured way, and then he exploded: "You'll never be either," said he.

CAPT. Howgate, the defaulting and absconding Signal Service Officer, is said to be in Florida, where he has an orange grove.

THE rascal who recently assaulted the daughter of Chief Engineer Isherwood, U. S. N., in New York and stole her porte monnaie, has been sentenced to twelve years imprisonment. He proves to be a professional English thief.

THE following naval officers registered at the Baldwin Hotel, San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 12, 1883: Chief Engr. R. Potts, Cadet Engr. W. W. White, P. Asst. Paymaster F. H. Clark, Ensign F. W. Coffin, P. Asst. Surg. R. Whiting.

RECENT DEATHS.

BYT. LIEUT. COL. HENRY WARNER JAMES, Major U. S. Army, on the retired list, died at Poughkeepsie, February 16, of apoplexy. Since his retirement from active service in 1879, he has suffered more or less from various disorders, mental and physical, and his death was not unexpected. During his active career in the Army, he filled many important positions, and was a most valuable officer during the war. A native of New York, he was in Illinois when the war broke out, and was commissioned a 1st lieutenant of the 55th Illinois Volunteers, October 31, 1861, and mustered out August 10, 1863, to accept on that date the appointment of captain and assistant quartermaster of volunteers. Soon afterwards, October 30, 1863, he was appointed to a similar position in the Regular Army, and was promoted a major and quartermaster, June 19, 1879, and placed on the retired list July 2, 1879, on account of disability incurred in the line of duty. He was brevetted major and lieutenant colonel March 13, 1865, for faithful and meritorious services during the war. Many in and out of the service will hear of the death of Col. James with sincere regret, which is increased by a recollection of the circumstances which led to his retirement for disability and his ultimate decease. The *Baltimore Sun*, advertising to the death, says: "Major James was quartermaster at Baltimore for several years, and from here was transferred to Helena, Montana. He shortly showed evidences of mental disease, and the commanding officer sent him to Washington under proper military escort. The case when before the Examining Board received much attention because of the position of the officer and of the nature of the malady. He subsequently went to New York, and a reported attempt at suicide led to

his removal to an asylum at or near Poughkeepsie, where he died. Major James was about 55 years of age, of handsome physique and accomplished manners. When stationed in Baltimore his mind was clear, and he made hosts of friends for himself and estimable family."

DEATH has again visited Fort Snelling, Minn. Capt. H. Baxter Quimby, 25th U. S. Infantry, died there February 20, of heart disease. The deceased officer, a native of New Hampshire, has a record of long and faithful service. On the 11th of August, 1862, he was appointed 1st sergeant of Co. H, 9th New Hampshire Volunteers; was discharged November 22, 1862, to accept an appointment as 2d lieutenant in the same regiment; was promoted 1st lieutenant, Feb. 15, 1864; mustered out June 10, 1865; appointed 2d lieutenant 108th U. S. colored troops September 20, 1865, and mustered out March 21, 1866. On the 28th of July, 1866, he was appointed 2d lieutenant of the 39th U. S. Infantry; promoted 1st lieutenant July 31, 1867; transferred to the 25th Infantry April 20, 1869, and promoted captain December 31, 1880. He served for many years in the Regular Army as a regimental quartermaster, and was an experienced and well qualified officer.

THE Army has lost this week a gallant and efficient officer in the person of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Verling K. Hart, Major 5th U. S. Cavalry, who died Feb. 17, at Fort McKinney, Wyoming, which post he commanded. The deceased officer was born in Indiana, and was appointed from that State a captain 19th U. S. Infantry, Oct. 30, 1861, and served on recruiting duty to 1863. He then joined his regiment a Murfreesboro', and was in the Chattanooga campaign, being engaged at the action of Hoover's Gap and battle of Chickamauga. On the 20th March, 1863, he was taken prisoner and confined at Libby Prison and several other places until Nov. 1864, when he escaped, and entered the Union lines at Knoxville, Dec. 1 of that year. He was engaged thereafter on recruiting service until 1866, and from that time forward has served in various places and positions with uniform credit to himself and to the service. He received the brevet of major Sept. 20, 1863, for gallant and meritorious services in the battle of Chickamauga, and that of Lieutenant Colonel March 13, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services during the war. In the reorganization of 1866 he was transferred to the 37th Infantry, to the 3d Infantry in 1869, and to the 7th Cavalry in 1871, and from the latter regiment was promoted major 5th Cavalry Dec. 2, 1875. His death has soon followed that of his mother, who died at Keokuk November 15 last.

COMMANDER MORRIS, U. S. Navy, whose death we recorded last week, was a generous, open hearted sailor as well as an excellent executive officer. He belonged to a family whose patriotic services date back to our earliest history. His great grandfather, Richard Morris, first Chief Justice of the State of New York, was one of the Committee of Safety for New York during the Revolution, prior to the establishment of a State government, and was driven away from his home at Fordham by the British troops, his residence having been burned by order of the royalist Governor Tryon. The grandfather of Commander Morris, Robert Morris, late of Fordham, was present on the American side at the surrender of Burgoyne, and one of his brothers, Fordham Morris, was an officer of volunteers during the late war. His father, Mr. Louis G. Morris, resides at Fordham, where the family has been located for several generations.

THE steamer *St. Laurent*, which arrived at Havre from New York Feb. 19 was on the 14th inst. struck by a heavy sea, which smashed and carried away everything on deck. Captain Delaplane and one of the quartermasters were carried overboard and drowned. Captain Delaplane was born in the South of France on Nov. 16, 1845. He received a fair school education and early in life showed great inclination to become a sailor. In 1862 he entered the French navy On Feb. 1, 1866, he was promoted to a cadetship. He subsequently passed through various positions and rose to be an officer of distinction.

JAMES F. AMES, who died at Chicopee, Mass., Feb. 17, was one of the most prominent men in this section of the State, and, with his brother (now dead), founded the extensive works of the Ames Manufacturing Company, which supplied a large amount of munitions of war to the Government during the Rebellion. He leaves a widow and one daughter, who married Hon. A. C. Woodworth, of Governor Butler's staff. Mr. Ames had been in poor health for a number of years, and his death was not unexpected.

CAPT. E. S. Godfrey, 7th U. S. Cavalry, has suffered a severe bereavement in the death of his wife, which occurred at West Point, N. Y., February 22. The funeral ceremonies of the deceased lady took place at West Point on the afternoon of February 23d.

CAPTAIN F. K. UPHAM, 1st U. S. Cavalry, has sustained a sad bereavement in the death of his father, which occurred at Dixon, Ill., Feb. 13. The deceased gentleman was in his 72d year.

WE sympathize with Lieutenant B. C. Lockwood, U. S. A., and Mrs. Lockwood, in the sad bereavement they have sustained in the death of their infant daughter, which took place at Detroit, February 11.

THE ARMY.

G. O. 11, H. Q. A., Feb. 16, 1883.

By direction of the Secretary of War paragraphs 821 and 2464 of the Regulations are amended to read as follows:

821. The superintendent or commanding officer will cause a minute and critical inspection to be made of every recruit received at a depot within two days after his arrival; and should any recruit be found unfit for service, or to have been enlisted contrary to law or regulations, he shall assemble a board of inspection to examine into the case. If, after three months' service, a concealed defect should become manifest in a recruit who has passed the prescribed examination at the depot, his case will be reported by the commanding officer of the depot to the Adjutant General, accompanied by the statement of the post surgeon. Recruits who have passed the prescribed examination at the depot, and have been in service over three months, are entitled to pay and allowances when discharged on certificates of disability, unless the cause for such discharge involves fraud on their part.

2464. Every enlisted man discharged as a minor, or within three months from enlistment for disease which existed prior to enlistment, or for other cause involving fraud on his part in the enlistment, shall forfeit all pay and allowances, including travelling allowances, due at the time of discharge, and shall not receive final statements.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adjt.-Gen.

G. O. 1, MIL. DIV. OF THE ATLANTIC, Feb. 13, 1883.

It being desired that firing practice with small arms should, as far as practicable, be confined to the reloading material supplied by the Ordnance Department, the allowance substantially as indicated in G. O. 5, Hdqrs. Dept. East, Aug. 8, 1881, will be regarded as the supply for one year.

The following decision of the General of the Army is published:

"G. O. 57, c. s. (1882) from this office, includes light batteries so far as its provisions are applicable to them, and the four hundred rounds per man per annum of pistol ammunition is allowed them as well as the cavalry."

By command of Major General Hancock:

WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE, Asst. Adjt.-Gen.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.—Major Asa Bird Gardner, Judge Advocate, will proceed to Washington, D. C., on public business (G. O. 30, Feb. 20, D. E.).

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Capt. D. D. Wheeler, A. Q. M., is relieved from duty in connection with the Board of Officers appointed by par. 7, S. O. 185, series of 1882, and amended by pars. 2 and 3, S. O. 216, series of 1882, Dept. of Dakota, and will return to his station in St. Paul, Minn. (S. O. 26, Feb. 7, D. D.).

Capt. J. M. Marshall, member G. C. M., at Santa Fe, N. Mex., Feb. 21 (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

Capt. Thomas B. Hunt will proceed to Fort Snelling, Minn., and report in person to the Comdg. Gen., Dept. Dakota, for assignment to duty (S. O. 17, Feb. 19, D. M.).

Capt. D. D. Wheeler, A. Q. M., will resume his duties in charge of the office of the Depot Quartermaster, St. Paul, Minn. (S. O. 32, Feb. 15, D. D.).

Major George B. Dandy, Depot Q. M., Saint Louis, Mo., will proceed to Jefferson City, Mo., on public business connected with the National Cemetery at that place (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Major W. F. Tucker, member G. C. M., at Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 21 (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

The payments of troops in the Department of the Missouri on the muster of Feb. 28, 1883, will be made by the following named Paymasters at the points herein named, as soon as possible after funds are available for the purpose: Major W. H. Smyth, at Fort Leavenworth, the Leavenworth Military Prison, and Forts Riley and Hays, Kansas; Major W. M. Maynard, at the Cavalry Recruiting Depot and Ordnance Powder Depot at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri; the recruiting parties at St. Louis, Missouri; Forts Gibson and Sill, I. T., Elliott, Texas, Supply and Reno, I. T.; Major H. G. Thomas, at Forts Lyon, Garland and Lewis, Colo.; Pagosa Springs, Colo.; the Cantonment on the Uncompahgre, Colo., and the Camps on Snake River, W. T., and White River, Colo.; Major George F. Robinson and Major William F. Tucker will make all payments in the District of New Mexico (not provided for above) under the direction of the District Commander (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

Major William Arthur, Paymtr., will proceed to West Point, N. Y., on public business (S. O. 31, Feb. 21, D. E.).

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.—Capt. Wells Willard, C. of S., will proceed from Cheyenne, Wyo., to Denver, Col., on public business (S. O. 19, Feb. 15, D. P.).

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—The Commanding Gen., Dept. of the East, will grant a furlough for six months to Ord. Sergt. John Graves, now at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H. (S. O., Feb. 15, W. D.).

Leave of absence for two months, with permission to apply for an extension, is granted to Major William A. Marye (S. O., Feb. 19, W. D.).

At the request of the Dept. of the Interior, Colonel Silas Crispin will attend the inspection of certain revolvers and accoutrements to be purchased for the Indian police and delivered in New York City (S. O. 20, W. D.).

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—A. A. Surg. A. C. Bergen's leave of absence is extended fifteen days (S. O. 33, Feb. 16, D. D.).

As soon as his services can be dispensed with at Cantonment Bad Lands, D. T., A. A. Surg. C. C. Miller will proceed to Fort Shaw, M. T., and report to the C. O. of that post for duty. On the arrival of Dr. Miller, the C. O., Fort Shaw, will annul the contract made with A. A. Surg. P. F. Madden (S. O. 33, Feb. 16, D. D.).

Capt. C. L. Heilmann, is relieved from duty within Dept. of Columbia (S. O. 12, Feb. 8, D. Columbia.).

Surg. B. J. D. Irwin and Asst. Surg. Geo. McCreery, members G. C. M., at Whipple Barracks, A. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 14, D. A.).

Capt. Geo. W. Adair, Judge Advocate G. C. M., at Fort Missoula, M. T., Feb. 20 (S. O. 26, Feb. 7, D. D.).

Maj. R. H. Alexander, President G. C. M., at Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 21 (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

Capt. H. S. Turrill, member G. C. M., at Fort Steele, Wy. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 20, Feb. 17, D. P.).

Asst. Surg. F. C. Ainsworth, member G. C. M., at Fort McIntosh, Tex., Feb. 23 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).

Asst. Surg. L. S. Tesson, member G. C. M., at Fort Clark, Feb. 19 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).

Leave of absence for twenty days is granted A. A. Surg. H. H. Ruger, Fort Totten, D. T. (S. O. 34, Feb. 17, D. D.).

A. A. Surg. Thomas B. Davis is relieved from duty at Fort Lovell, and will report, without delay, to the C. O., San Carlos, A. T., for duty relieving A. A. Surg. Frederick

Lloyd, whose contract has been annulled at his own request, to date Feb. 20 (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

On the recommendation of the Medical Director of the Dept., Hospital Steward Thomas Brady, now at Fort Sidney, Neb., will report to the C. O., Fort Washakie, Wyo., for duty (S. O. 19, Feb. 15, D. P.).

Hospital Steward Herman Wilkendorf will, as soon as his services can be dispensed with by the C. O., Cantonment Bad Lands, D. T., proceed to Fort Sisseton, D. T., for duty (S. O. 26, Feb. 7, D. D.).

Hospital Steward Thomas J. Burke (late private, Co. K, 11th Inf.), will proceed from Fort Sully, D. T., to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for duty (S. O., Feb. 16, W. D.).

Hospital Steward Luke Lavery, discharged the service, at Fort Cameron, U. T., Jan. 6, 1883, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Hospital Steward John V. Carroll, appointed Feb. 13, 1883, from private, Co. D, to report, by letter, to the Comdg. Gen., D. of Dakota, for assignment to duty (Letter from A. G. O., Feb. 18, 1883.).

Hospital Steward Paul Winkler, assigned to temporary duty at Vancouver Barracks, W. T. (S. O. 10, Feb. 2, D. of Columbia.).

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—Col. George Thom having served as an officer of the Army over forty years, is, at his own request, retired from active service as of this date, under provisions of the act approved June 30, 1882 (S. O., Feb. 20, W. D.).

THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.

The journeys performed by Capt. M. Harris as member of the Board of Officers convened by S. O. 170, series of 1882, M. D. P., are approved (S. O. 17, Feb. 7, M. D. P.).

2ND CAVALRY, Col. John P. Hatch.

As soon as his services can be spared by his post commander, 1st Lieut. J. N. Allison, Fort Keogh, M. T., will proceed to Fort Ellis, M. T., on business connected with the office of post quartermaster of the latter post, while under his charge (S. O. 27, Feb. 9, D. D.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. James N. Wheelan, Fort Custer, M. T., seven days (S. O. 18, Feb. 21, M. D. M.).

3RD CAVALRY, Colonel Albert G. Brackett.

Lieut.-Col. David R. Clendenin assumes command of the regiment (G. O. 1, Feb. 14, Hdqrs 3d Cav.).

Capt. Oscar Ritting, president; Capt. Albert D. King, 2d Lieut. William D. Beach and Franklin O. Johnson, members, G. C. M., at Fort Grant, A. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

Lieut.-Col. D. R. Clendenin, president; Capt. H. W. Westells, Jr., member, and 1st Lieut. B. Reynolds, Adjt., J.-A. of G. C. M., at Whipple Bks, A. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 14, Feb. 14, D. A.).

Leave of Absence.—Twenty days, 2d Lieut. Parker W. West (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

4TH CAVALRY, Col. William B. Royall.

Capt. H. W. Lawton will perform the duty of A. A. Q. M. at Santa Fe, N. M., during the absence on leave of 1st Lieut. J. G. Ballance, B. Q. M., 2nd Inf. (S. O. 13, Feb. 10, D. N. M.).

Capt. Otto W. Budd is relieved from duty at the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry, and will proceed to join his troop (S. O. 34, Feb. 13, D. M.).

Capt. H. W. Lawton, member, G. C. M., at Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 21 (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).

6TH CAVALRY, Col. Eugene A. Carr.

Major James Biddle, president; Capt. Adna R. Chaffee, William M. Wallace, 1st Lieut. Frank West, George L. Scott, 2d Lieut. John M. Stotsenburg, members, and 2d Lieut. William W. Forsyth, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort McDowell, A. T., Feb. 14 (S. O. 12, Feb. 9, D. A.).

Capt. C. G. Gordon, G. E. Overton, and 2d Lieut. E. F. Wilcox, members, G. C. M., at Fort Grant, A. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel Samuel D. Sturgis.

Major Lewis Merrill, having reported at Hdqrs. Dept. of Dakota and relinquished the unexpired portion of his leave, will proceed to Fort Yates, D. T., for duty; the command he left having been broken up (S. O. 32, Feb. 15, D. D.).

8TH CAVALRY, Colonel Thos. H. Neill.

Capt. A. P. Caraher, 1st Lieut. B. A. Williams and F. E. Phelps, members, G. C. M., at Fort McIntosh, Tex., Feb. 23 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).

Major R. F. Bernard, president; Capt. L. T. Morris, 1st Lieut. Edmund Luff, R. Q. M., E. A. Godwin, 2d Lieut. John Guest, H. F. Kendall, A. G. Hammond, members, and 1st Lieut. H. S. Weeks, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort Clark, Tex., Feb. 19 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).

1st Lieut. B. A. Williams is relieved as a member G. C. M. appointed by par. 1, S. O. 17, D. T. (S. O. 18, Feb. 16, D. T.).

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

Capt. Francis Moore, president; Capt. L. H. Rucker, John S. Loud, 1st Lieut. T. C. Davenport, John F. Guilfoyle, 2d Lieut. C. M. Schaeffer, J. H. Gardner, members, and 2d Lieut. George B. Burnett, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort Riley, Kas., Feb. 19 (S. O. 35, Feb. 14, D. M.).

Leave Extended.—Col. Edward Hatch, fifteen days (S. O. 17, Feb. 19, M. D. M.).

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

ROSTER OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS 10TH CAVALRY, JAN. 1, 1883.—Headquarters, Fort Davis, Tex.: Col. B. H. Grierson, comdg. regt. and post; Major Anson Mills; Major F. Van Vleet; Chaplain F. H. Weaver; 1st Lieut. Chas. L. Cooper, Post Adjt.; 1st Lieut. M. M. Maxon, A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; Capt. L. H. Carpenter, H. Capt. S. T. Norvell, M.; Capt. A. B. Keyes, D.; Capt. R. G. Smith, B.; 1st Lieut. W. H. Beck, C.; 1st Lieut. T. W. Jones, B. comdg. Troop A.; 1st Lieut. C. G. Ayres, M.; 2d Lieut. R. D. Read, Jr., K.; 2d Lieut. M. F. Eggleston, M. Fort Stockton, Tex.: Lieut.-Col. Jas. F. Wade, comdg. post; Capt. G. A. Armes, L.; 1st Lieut. S. R. Colladay, G. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; 2d Lieut. P. E. Tripp, G. Fort Concho, Tex.: Major C. B. McClellan; Capt. W. B. Keunedy, D.; Capt. J. M. Kelley, E.; 1st Lieut. L. P. Hunt, E.; 2d Lieut. J. W. Watson, F. On detached service: Capt. Theodore A. Baldwin, I, Charles D. Viole, C, and T. C. Lebo, K, Fort Davis, Tex., commanding troops in the field; 1st Lieut. Richard H. Pratt, I, Carlisle Bks, Pa., with reference to Ind. education; 1st Lieut. William Davis, Jr., L, G. M. B. S., St. Louis, Mo.; 1st Lieut. Charles E. Nordstrom, A, G. R. S., N. Y. City; 1st Lieut. George H. Evans, F, Fort Concho, Tex.; G. M. B. S., Jefferson Bks, Mo.; 2d Lieut. James S. Joutet, I, Fort Davis,

Tex., in the field; 2d Lieut. John Bigelow, Jr., B, at M. Academy, West Point, N. Y.; 2d Lieut. Leigh on Finley, A, at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., at school of application; 2d Lieut. John B. McDonald, E, Fort Concho, Tex., member, G. C. M., at Fort McKavett, Tex. On leave: 1st Lieut. S. L. Woodward, K; 1st Lieut. C. R. Ward, D; 2d Lieut. C. Esterly, L; 2d Lieut. C. H. Grierson, D. Absent Sick: Capt. J. T. Morrison, A; Capt. P. L. Lee, G; 1st Lieut. W. R. Harmon, H.

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel George P. Andrews.

The journeys performed by Major A. M. Randol as member of the Board of Officers convened by S. O. 170, Mil. Div. of Pacific, Oct. 20, 1882, are approved (S. O. 17, Feb. 7, M. D. P.).

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

Capt. W. P. Graves, president; Capt. John McGillivray, 1st Lieut. F. O. Grugan, J. C. Scantling, J. E. Eastman, 2d Lieut. E. M. Weaver, Jr., G. F. Barney, members, and 1st Lieut. E. S. Curtis, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Washington Bks, D. C., Feb. 23 (S. O. 30, Feb. 20, D. E.).

The following transfers in the 2d Art. are made: 1st Lieut. Frank C. Grugan, from Bat. K to B; 1st Lieut. Wright P. Edgerton, from Bat. B to I; 1st Lieut. William A. Simpson, from Bat. I to K; 2d Lieut. George F. Barney, from Bat. C to I (S. O., Feb. 19, W. D.).

1ST INFANTRY, Colonel William R. Shafter.

Capt. Wm. N. Tisdall and 2d Lieut. F. de L. Carrington, members, G. C. M., at Fort McDowell, A. T., Feb. 14 (S. O. 12, Feb. 9, D. A.).

1st Lieut. Louis Wilhelm, Adjt., J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort Grant, A. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

1st Lieut. C. A. Booth, M. Markland, and 2d Lieut. L. P. Brant, members, G. C. M., at Whipple Bks, A. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 14, Feb. 14, D. A.).

The C. O. Fort Verde will grant a furlough for two months to Private John A. Dietz, Co. E (S. O. 13, Feb. 12, D. A.).

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

So much of S. F. O. 1, Wallula Junction, W. T., as directs 2d Lieut. John S. Mallory, 2d Inf. (on detached service in pursuit of deserters), to repair to Fort Walla Walla, and return thence to his station, Fort Cour d'Alene, with Private A. E. Flowers, an apprehended deserter from Co. G, 2d Inf., so soon as travel shall have been resumed on the N. P. R. R., between Ainsworth and Sprague, W. T., is confirmed (S. O. 11, Feb. 5, D. Columbia.).

3RD INFANTRY, Colonel John R. Brooke.

Capt. R. P. Hughes, A. D. C., will take charge of the Inspector-General's Office at Hdqrs. Dept. of Dakota, and will perform the duties of Inspector-General of this Department, until an officer shall have been regularly detailed to that position (G. O. 5, Feb. 7, D. D.).

Capt. Wm. H. Fenrose, president; Capt. George E. Head, James H. Gageby, 1st Lieut. John F. Thompson, Philip Reade, Wm. Gerlach, 2d Lieut. Lorenzo W. Cooke and Frank P. Avery, members, G. C. M., at Fort Missoula, N. M. T., Feb. 20 (S. O. 26, Feb. 7, D. D.).

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel William P. Carlin.

1st Lieut. Henry E. Robinson is detailed a member G. C. M. convened at Fort Bridger, Wyo., by par. 3, S. O. 15, D. P., vice 1st Lieut. Robert H. Young, who is relieved (S. O. 17, Feb. 12, D. P.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Edwin M. Coates, one month (S. O. 18, Feb. 21, M. D. M.).

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel John D. Wilkins.

The journeys performed by Capt. Frank D. Baldwin to Portland, Ore., and return to Vancouver, W. T., on Jan. 18 and 24, and Feb. 1, 2, and 7, are confirmed (S. O. 12, Feb. 8, D. Columbia.).

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel Alex. McD. McCook.

Sergt. Edgar Griffith, Co. B, G. S. R., having failed to meet in Chicago, Ill., a detachment of recruits under command of 2d Lieut. Charles H. Ingalls, 6th Inf., he was ordered, Feb. 19, to proceed with a detachment of sixteen recruits in his charge to Omaha, Neb., and report to the Comdg. Gen. Dept. of Platte, for further orders. If Lieut. Ingalls is not awaiting his arrival at Omaha, Sergt. Griffith will be ordered to conduct the recruits to San Francisco, Cal. (S. O. 16, Feb. 19, M. D. M.).

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.

1st Lieut. William Quilton, Levi F. Burnett, and 2d Lieut. Lewis D. Greene, members, G. C. M., at Fort Fred. Steele, Wy. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 20, Feb. 17, D. P.).

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.

Major Andrew S. Burt (recently promoted from Captain, 9th Inf.), will report on the expiration of his leave of absence, to the Lieut.-General, commanding Mil. Div. of Missouri, for temporary duty (S. O., Feb. 19, W. D.).

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel James Van Vost.

Capt. A. Morton, president, and 2d Lieut. C. C. Miner, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort Fred. Steele, Wy. T., Feb. 21 (S. O. 20, Feb. 17, D. P.).

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel Richard I. Dodge.

1st Lieut. C. F. Roe is detailed on General Recruiting Service for the Dept. of Dakota, at Camp Poplar River, M. T. (S. O. 27, Feb. 9, D. D.).

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.

Capt. W. T. Hartz, 1st Lieut. W. O. Cory, 2d Lieut. John Cotter and B. O. Welsh, members, G. C. M., at Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 30, Feb. 13, D. D.).

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel Galusha Pennypacker.

Capt. H. C. Ward, member, and 1st Lieut. S. R. Whittall, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort McIntosh, Tex., Feb. 23 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Chas. C. Gilbert.

Capt. L. H. Sanger, president; 1st Lieut. J. Chance, 2d Lieut. W. English, members, and 1st Lieut. J. M. Burns, J.-A. of G. C. M., at Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Feb. 19 (S. O. 30, Feb. 13, D. D.).

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

1st Lieut. C. O. Hewitt, member, G. C.-M. at Fort Clark, Tex., Feb. 19 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).
 Capt. P. H. Remington, president, and 2d Lieut. J. M. Cunningham, member, G. C.-M. at Fort McIntosh, Tex., Feb. 23 (S. O. 17, Feb. 13, D. T.).
 1st Lieut. W. M. Williams is detailed as a member G. C.-M. appointed by par. 1, S. O. 17, D. T. (S. O. 18, Feb. 16, D. T.).
 2d Lieut. F. H. French is announced, from Jan. 10, 1883, and until he shall have been relieved from duty with the detachment of Seminole Negro-Indian scouts, as on duty requiring him to be mounted (S. O. 18, Feb. 16, D. T.).
Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Edward B. Ives, Fort Clark, Tex., one month (S. O. 17, Feb. 19, M. D. M.).

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.

1st Lieut. O. M. Smith, member, and 2d Lieut. G. H. Patten, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 21 (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).
 The Supt. General Recruiting Service will cause forty recruits to be forwarded to Santa Fe, N. M., for the 22d Inf. (S. O., Feb. 15, W. D.).

33RD INFANTRY, Colonel Henry M. Black.

Capt. Joseph T. Haskell, now on leave of absence at New Rochelle, N. Y., will report by letter to the Supt. General Recruiting Service, N. Y. City, to conduct a detachment of recruits to the Dept. of Missouri. On the completion of this duty he will join his company (S. O., Feb. 17, W. D.).
 2d Lieut. John A. Dapray, now on leave of absence in Washington, D. C., will report by letter to the Supt. General Recruiting Service, N. Y. City, to conduct a detachment of recruits to the Dept. of Missouri (S. O., Feb. 19, W. D.).
 The C. O. of Fort Union, N. M., will grant a furlough for two months to Sergt.-Major Joseph Morgan (S. O. 37, Feb. 16, D. M.).

34TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

2d Lieut. Frank B. McCoy is, at his own request, transferred from the 34th Inf. to the 3d Inf., and will join the station of his company (A), Fort Shaw, M. T., at the expiration of his leave of absence. The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. McCoy (now 2d Lieutenant, 3d Inf.), is extended one month (S. O., Feb. 20, W. D.).
 The C. O. of Fort Leavenworth, Kas., will grant a furlough for two months to Private Daniel Kyles, recently re-enlisted at his post for Co. K (S. O. 35, Feb. 14, D. M.).
 The C. O. of Fort Elliott, Tex., will grant a furlough for four months to Sergt. John T. Fortune, Co. H, and the C. O. of Fort Leavenworth, Kas., will grant a furlough for one month to Private Henry Richardson, recently re-enlisted at his post for Co. K (S. O. 36, Feb. 15, D. M.).
 The C. O. of Fort Sill, I. T., will grant a furlough for two months to Corpl. Alfred Ruger, Co. C (S. O. 37, Feb. 16, D. M.).
Leave of Absence.—One month, 2d Lieut. Charles L. Collins, Fort Elliott, Tex. (S. O. 34, Feb. 13, D. M.).

General Courts-Martial.—At Fort A. Lincoln, D. T., Feb. 19. Detail: Four officers of the 17th Inf., and four of the 15th Inf.

At Fort McDowell, A. T., Feb. 14. Detail: Seven officers of the 6th Cav., and two of the 1st Inf.

At Fort Riley, Kas., Feb. 19. Detail: Eight officers of the 9th Cav.

At Fort Missoula, M. T., Feb. 20. Detail: Eight officers of the 3d Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort Fred. Steele, W. T., Feb. 21. Detail: Three officers of the 7th Inf.; two of the 9th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 21. Detail: One officer each of the Med. Dept., Pay Dept., Q. M. Dept., and 4th Cav., and two of the 22d Inf.

At Fort Clark, Tex., Feb. 19. Detail: Eight officers of the 8th Cav.; one of the 19th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort McIntosh, Tex., Feb. 23. Detail: Three officers of the 8th Cav.; two of the 19th Inf.; two of the 16th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort Grant, A. T., Feb. 21. Detail: Four officers of the 3d Cav.; three of the 6th Cav., and one of the 1st Inf.

At Washington Bks, D. C., Feb. 23. Detail: Eight officers of the 2d Art.

At Whipple Bks, A. T., Feb. 19. Detail: Three officers of the 3d Cav.; three of the 1st Inf., and two of the Med. Dept.

The G. C.-M. convoked at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., by p. r. 1, S. O. 19, D. E., will re-assemble at that post on Feb. 16, for reconsideration of the case of Private William H. Copeland, Bat. G, 5th Art., and for the trial of other prisoners (S. O. 27, Feb. 14, D. E.).

Special Inspectors Appointed.—Capt. William H. Boyle, 21st Inf., at Vancouver Bks, W. T. (S. O. 11, Feb. 5, D. Columbia.)

Col. Xavier Grover, 1st Cav., at Fort Walla Walla, W. T. (S. O. 13, Feb. 8, D. Columbia.)

Boards of Survey.—At the San Antonio Depot, Feb. 19. Detail: Major D. N. Bash, Pay Dept.; Capt. J. W. Clous, 24th Inf., and 1st Lieut. Colon Augur, 2d Cav., A. D. C. (S. O. 18, Feb. 16, D. T.).

Board of Officers.—A Board of Officers will assemble at San Francisco, Cal., on Feb. 8, to inspect cavalry horses authorized to be purchased by the Depot Quartermaster, San Francisco. Detail: Major A. M. Randol, 1st Art.; Capt. Moses Harris, 1st Cav., and 1st Lieut. L. A. Chamberlin, 1st Art. (S. O. 17, Feb. 7, M. D. P.).

Lady Franklin Bay Expedition.—The following named enlisted men, having volunteered for service with the proposed relief expedition to Lady Franklin Bay, Grinnell Land, will be sent by their respective post commanders to report to the Chief Signal Officer, Washington, D. C.: Sergt. John Kenney, Troop I, 7th Cav.; Corpl. Frank Elwell, Co. E, 3d Inf.; Artificer Orville F. Moritz, Co. A, 17th Inf., and Private John J. Murphy, Co. F, 11th Inf. (S. O. 29, Feb. 12, D. D.).

Military Prisoners.—The portion of the sentence in the case of Private Frank Lightcap, Co. D, 2d Inf., remaining unexecuted on Feb. 18, is remitted (G. C.-M. O. 12, Feb. 8, D. Cal.).

So much of the unexpired portion of the sentence in the case of Private Richard Jackson, Troop G, 5th Cav., published in G. C.-M. O. 33, series of 1882, D. P., as relates to confinement, is remitted (S. O. 20, Feb. 17, D. P.).

Army Medical Board.—The Army Medical Board ordered to assemble at the Army Building, New York City, March 1,

for the examination of such persons as may be properly invited to present themselves before it as candidates for appointment in the Medical Corps of the Army, will probably continue in session about three months. The following rules, which govern in the matter, we publish for general information: All candidates for appointment in the Medical Corps must apply to the Secretary of War for an invitation to appear for examination. The application must be in the handwriting of the applicant, must state date and place of his birth and place and state of which he is a permanent resident, and must be accompanied by certificates based on personal acquaintance from at least two persons of repute as to citizenship, character, and moral habits; testimonials as to professional standing from professors of the medical college at which they graduated should also accompany the application if they can be obtained. The candidate must be between 21 and 28 years of age (without any exceptions), and a graduate of a regular medical college, evidence of which, his diploma, must be submitted to the Board. Further information regarding these examinations and the nature thereof, can be obtained by addressing the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

Department of the South.—Some time ago James J. Henrichs, a civil engineer, disappeared from his home in East New York. Detectives have ascertained that he enlisted as a private soldier in the Regular Army on the day of his disappearance, and that he has been sent to St. Louis with a batch of recruits. He is 31 years of age, and is described as a fine looking man.

Non-Commissioned Officers' Warrants.—"If a non-commissioned officer re-enlists on the day following his discharge, he may be continued in the rank for which he holds a warrant, at the discretion of his regimental commander, and the re-enlistment must be endorsed on the old warrant; but if there should be any break in his service between discharge and re-enlistment, for which he does not receive pay, a new warrant must be issued, the non-commissioned officer taking rank from date of new warrant." (War Dept. decision Feb. 9, 1883. Reiteration of decision Feb. 25, 1881, published in ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of March 5, 1881, p. 638.)

Post Bakeries.—"It is not in the interest of public policy that bread baked at the garrison bakery should be brought in competition with that baked and sold by citizen bakers, and therefore directs that bread baked at the post of . . . shall only be sold to persons connected with the military service." . . . (War Dept. decision of Feb. 17, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Department of Dakota.—Lieut. Colonel Ilges, commanding at Fort Assiniboine, reports, Feb. 8, that couriers have come in from Lieut. Hardin, who has been scouting in the Milk River country, bringing the intelligence that Feb. 3 he struck and captured a camp of forty-four lodges of Canadian Indians belonging to Rosebud's band, on Woody Island Creek, near Falls timber. The Indians were ordered to pack up their tepees were taken down, and the whole camp was started across the boundary line. The troops did not accompany them to the border on account of the deep snow. The cold has been extreme, thermometer registering more than 40 deg. below zero; many of the men are frozen, but none of them seriously. Lieut. Hardin's detachment was expected to arrive at the fort Feb. 9.

A fire took place at Fort Stevenson, D. T., Feb. 4, in the pump house, which was communicated to the last wing of the company quarters, which though not so serious as might have been, yet did considerable damage.

The Cheyenne Sun says: "Uncle Jimmy Cannon, the well known old Government scout and Indian interpreter, has written a letter to the Secretary of the Interior asking him to arm every man on the frontier, stating that there were in Colorado thousands of good and serviceable, but condemned, Government guns of fifty calibre, and that were these arms, together with plenty of ammunition, furnished the frontiersmen, a terrible loss of life would be averted. The Utes, the Sioux, the Blackfeet, the White Mountain Apaches, the San Carlos Apaches, the Navajos, the Nez Percés, the Comanches, the Modocs, the Clay Esters, and about all the other savages on the continent, have a deep laid scheme to unite and bath the frontier in a shower bath of red, red blood. Uncle Jimmy states these Indian tribes have been armed with weapons of the latest pattern furnished by the Mormons, and that active measures to suppress the festive and loving practices of the Mormon church will be met by the Latter Day Saints with armed resistance, the Indians being enrolled as allies." Uncle Jimmy appears to have a new variety of the disease which peoples the world with horrors, usually in the form of snakes.

J. writes Feb. 8, from Fort Bridger, Wyo., to the Cheyenne Leader that "Feb. 1, a soldier there went into the first sergeant's room to load some cartridges for the gallery practice; one of the cartridges went off, and struck him in the right corner of the left eye, almost knocking his brains out. He went to the hospital, a distance of about 300 yards. The doctor probed for the ball but did not find it, and then seved up the wound. After he had been in the hospital a week he asked the steward to go back to his company for duty."

Department of the Missouri.—Private John Miller, troop M, 8th Cav., has invented an arrangement by which any number of horses can be unfastened in their stalls, in case of fire, by the simple movement of a lever used from the outside of the stable. The invention is the result of a recent fire at Fort Leavenworth in which some of the horses were burned to death.

The Leavenworth Times of Feb. 16, says: "The department gold medal of which 1st Sergeant S. F. Cudworth, Co. E, 20th Infantry, is the winner, was received yesterday at department headquarters, and he will be ordered to Fort Leavenworth, and receive the medal in person from the department commander. It is to be worn on all occasions of ceremony. A military prisoner, Elmer A. Bickford, late of the Ordnance Corps, U. S. A., was so severely injured in the rock quarry Wednesday afternoon, by the caving in of the bank, that he died from the effects of the injuries the same evening and was buried yesterday afternoon in the national cemetery."

Department of the East.—A communication was received in the House Feb. 21 from the Secretary of War stating that the appropriation of \$39,000 made last year for building a sea wall at Governor's Island, New York Harbor, is insufficient for the purpose, and recommending a further appropriation of \$15,000.

The Washington correspondent of the New York World says: "Mr. Maxey, of Texas, has taken up a notion that the Hygeia Hotel, at Old Point, Virginia, must be razed, for nothing in particular. The hotel, which is one of the sani-

tariums of the South, is built on Government land. The Government has no power to sell or rent an acre of the ground, as it would then revert to the State of Virginia, according to the terms by which the ground was ceded. When the hotel was put there it was with the understanding that if the ground was ever needed it should be knocked away. It can hardly be needed for defence, as Fortress Monroe is already the largest single fortification in the world, not any one of the seven forts at Gibraltar being so large; but it is of about as much use for defence in these days as a pile of wheelbarrows. Mr. Maxey's iconoclastic spirit could destroy a very nice place, but of what benefit that would be nobody knows."

Department of the Platte.—The Omaha Daily Bee says:

"Red Cloud, who since the days of the Fort Phil. Kearney massacre has succeeded in keeping his name prominently before the public, is tramping through the east with a story that he was robbed by the Government of 4,000 ponies during the Sioux campaign in 1876, and several Washington correspondents and a number of philanthropic Eastern papers have worked themselves into a high degree of excitement over the cruel wrong which was perpetrated upon this friendly Indian. An interview with one of General Crook's former officers of staff (Colonel T. H. Stanton, U. S. A.), effectually disposes of Red Cloud's claim and his pretences of loyalty during the Rosebud campaign. The 4,000 horses dwindle down to 400 ponies taken from hostile Sioux, sold for their benefit, the proceeds of which were invested in cattle and turned over to Red Cloud's band. The story of starvation and want is placed in its true colors and another instance of General Crook's wisdom in dealing with refractory Indians is brought to light. The Interior Department in this instance seems to have stirred up a first class mare's nest."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)**FORT CUSTER, M. T.**

February 8, 1883.

Our officers presented "Ours" in their neat little theatre on the evening of February 6 to a large and delighted audience, with the following cast of characters: Lady Shendryn, Mrs. Roe; Blanche Haye, Mrs. Hoppin; Mary Netley, Mrs. La Point; Prince Petrovsky, Lieut. Sibley, 2d Cavalry; Sir Alexander Shendryn, Bart, Lieut. Mann, 17th Infantry; Angus McAllister, Lieut. Hoppin, 2d Cavalry; Hugh Chalcut, Lieut. Roe, 2d Cavalry; Sergt. Jones, Lieut. Wilson, 5th Infantry. Mrs. Roe, Mrs. La Point and Mrs. Hoppin won deserved plaudits for the graceful and truthful rendition of their respective parts. Mrs. Hoppin in the pretty ballad "If my Glances have Betrayed Me," won golden opinions and received an enthusiastic encore. A word of praise is due the costumes of the ladies, which for elegance surpass anything ever seen at the post. Lieut. Roe as "Hugh Chalcut" was true to life, especially so in the third act in which he appeared to great advantage, and causing great merriment by his culinary efforts and hospitality to the fair sex under difficulties.

Lieut. Hoppin as "Angus McAllister" played the part with his usual impetuosity, taking not only the enemy's line by storm, but his lady love's heart also. In his scarlet coat he looked as gallant as any knight of old and as irresistible.

The realistic acting of Lieut. Sibley as "Prince Petrovsky" and Lieut. Mann as "Sir Alexander Shendryn" was especially fine. Lieut. Wilson as "Sergt. Jones" played his part to perfection, and, as the happy father of twins, kept the audience (especially the ladies) in constant merriment. We only trust the impersonation is a prophecy of the blessing which will some day come in earnest to the gallant lieutenant.

Taken altogether "Ours" was a decided success and may be considered the event of the season. Too much praise cannot be given to the several ladies and gentlemen who participated as performers, and we trust that this (the third) entertainment may speedily be followed by others of the same kind.

Due praise must be given Lieut. Borden, 5th Infantry, for the elegant and artistic setting of the stage. The scenery in the first and third acts were perfect. "MILITES."

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)**FORT DOUGLAS, UTAH.**

February 11, 1883.

Gen. Molineux's recent articles in the JOURNAL on "Development of Infantry Fire," have been read here with much pleasure; and his views and suggestions are commended for their good sense. We are doing full justice to target practice here. Work is carried on at the range every day, if practicable, and during bad weather gallery practice in the quarters and reduced ranges at reduced targets. No one is excused from this duty, and all the officers are in attendance, marking scores with the men. When a recruit arrives here from depot, the first thing he is introduced to is his rifle-gallery practice with reduced charges, three grains of powder. Recruits thoroughly instructed during the winter at gallery practice go out on the range, and make the best shots in the spring. Gen. Terry has recently stirred this thing up pretty lively. Poor commanding officers make poor men. All doing and feeling finely here; not much sickness.

Jennette McCook, the daughter of our commandant, is safely over an attack of the measles.

FORT MISSOULA, MONTANA.

Some weeks ago we published the fact that Walter Kendig Yentzer, a soldier of Co. H, 3d U. S. Infantry, had been found frozen to death near his post, Fort Missoula. Some of the Western papers founded quite a romance on the occurrence, stating that Yentzer was on picket duty looking out for hostile Indians when he met his fate, the thermometer being 50 degrees below zero, etc. The Missoulian, however, objects to this story, and says:

"The inference any one unacquainted with the facts would draw is that Missoula is in a region infested by hostile savages, and that the Army officers hereabout are very hard hearted men indeed to cruelly expose their men to protracted exposure to such an exceedingly low temperature as 50 degrees minus. As we are interested in not desiring our Eastern brethren to believe that Missoula has to be protected from hostiles by a cordon of pickets; and, as we happen to know that the Army officers at the fort, four miles away, are not indifferent to the welfare of their subordinates, we have been at some pains to ascertain the facts in this case."

The Missoulian then gives his history, and says: "He was in the guard house for absence without leave for some time previous to Jan. 18. On that date he was relieved and attended retreat roll call with his company, perfectly sober, and expressed contrition and made promises of reformation. That night he again left his company quarters and proceeded to neighboring saloons about a mile away. The night was bitterly cold, and he pawned for \$5 the buffalo overcoat issued to him, and lost, or sold, his fur cap and gloves. At guard mounting next morning he was reported absent without leave. A detail was made of a non-commissioned officer to hunt him up. The body was found in a gully a half mile from the post, on the road leading to the nearest saloon. Life had been extinct for some hours."

TARGET PRACTICE FOR OFFICERS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
SAN ANTONIO, TEX., Feb. 14, 1883.

Circular No. 1.

A captain of a company in this department, having applied to the General of the Army to be relieved from the operation of so much of General Orders No. 36, series of 1881, from these headquarters, as requires officers to shoot with their companies, on the ground of its being undignified, and, in his opinion, injurious to discipline, and, moreover, "distasteful to him," the following is published for the information of all concerned:

[Endorsement, January 9, 1883, by Department Commander, in forwarding, through division headquarters, to the Adjutant General of the Army.]

"If an officer is to be of any use as an instructor to his men, in any branch of military knowledge, he must first make himself master of the branch. To do this he must not only understand the theory of the matter in question, but must have a thorough practical knowledge of it as well; particularly is this the case in target firing. The theory of firing presupposes a perfect aim, perfect sights and perfect aim. Practically we have none of these; guns are often imperfect, as well as cartridges; sights are frequently defective; and allowances have to be made for wind as well as for light and mirage. No officer can instruct his men how to overcome these difficulties unless from his own practical experience. To do this he must practice shooting himself; and it seemed to me the proper time to do so was with his company, when, if difficulties of any kind arose, he could explain them, and show how they could be overcome.

When a captain I always practiced with my company to my own great advantage, and, I believe, to the advantage of my company, without finding it at all injurious to discipline.

The discipline of a company must be in a precarious condition when it is endangered by the men seeing their officers striving to acquire knowledge of their duties, that they may the better instruct and benefit them.

It is to be regretted that . . . should find any of his military duties "distasteful to him," particularly that special portion of them which, in the present condition of the art of war, is considered one of the most essential.

The Army is not a kindergarten for developing and cultivating particular tastes, nor is it a school for elective studies, but is intended for rough practical business, and demands of every one connected with it, in his particular sphere, not to worry too much about his dignity, but to go to work and qualify himself to his fullest capacity, that he may the better assist in making our little Army a thoroughly instructed and efficient one.

Enclosed are the only orders of this Department on the subject, to which . . . refers.

Appropos to this comes, this very day, a letter from division headquarters, stating that the Lieutenant General has observed an apparent lack of interest and attention on the part of some officers in this department, in this very matter of target practice. It is possible that other officers may be affected as . . . is, but if so, none has put his case on record."

[Letter in reply, dated Jan. 31, 1883, from the Adjutant General of the Army to the Department Commander, through division headquarters.]

"In reply thereto the General of the Army directs me to inform you that, having read carefully the letter of . . . and your endorsement thereon, he fully concurs with you in your views on the subject, believing that no competent officer can compromise his lawful authority by mingling on terms of equality with his men in manly games and sports, much less in the prescribed contests with the rifle.

The General remarks, in this connection, that he has witnessed at Aldershot, England, on the public parade ground, contests with the foil, the broadsword, the quarterstaff, and in leaping, where the major, captain, lieutenant, sergeant, corporal and private of the same battalion (often officers and enlisted men of the same company) were the participants—quite frequently the sergeant or private beating his own captain, and as such contests occur in the English Army, it seems strange to him that a captain in our Army should object to participating with his men in target practice with the rifle. The captain enters the service for life, and has every advantage in education and experience over his men, who enlist for terms of five years. He should know more of the theory and practice than any of his men, because he is their instructor and leader. While it is well known that accurate marksmanship depends largely on the perfection of eyesight, the steadiness of muscle and health and strength of body, in which the enlisted man may be the superior of his captain, the General would be sorry to learn that any captain in the Army of the United States was inferior to any of his men in nerve, in steadiness, or in the knowledge of the weapon used by his command. He has also seen the best officers of our Army firing with their men.

In conclusion, I am directed to state that he approves of the standing orders in force in the Army for target practice, and those in force in the Department of Texas, especially General Orders No. 36, of Oct. 25, 1881, from your headquarters, to which it is understood . . . objects."

RIFLE PRACTICE.

ANNUAL TARGET RECORD, DEPARTMENT MISSOURI—REPORT
OF THE GENERAL INSTRUCTOR OF MUSKETRY.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, NOV. 20, 1882.

The Adjutant-General, Department of the Missouri:

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the "Annual Target Record" of this Department for the target year ending September 30th last with the accompanying recommendations and remarks, suggested by the experience and observations of myself as well as that of many distinguished marksmen of this and of other Departments, with whom I have had exceptionally good opportunities of discussing the subject of musketry during the recent contests.

Prominent among the latter I desire to mention Capt. George Shorkley, 15th Infantry, late Inspector of Musketry of this Department, to whom I am indebted for many valuable facts and hints, and whose views accord with mine on the subjects referred to herein.

A glance at the accompanying record will discover great improvement in musketry as a whole, and in most of the eight regiments constituting the command since April, 1881, when the present system of musketry was inaugurated in this Department.

The number of qualified marksmen has increased from three in 1880 to seventy-five in 1881, and to two hundred and sixty in 1882. The numbers in the 1st and 2d classes have also largely increased. The great progress noted may be traced directly to the efforts of particular officers, generally company commanders, who are themselves marksmen, who fire with and personally instruct their men.

The most noticeable progress of the past year is in Company H, 24th Infantry (Capt. J. C. Gilmore), of which 21 officers and enlisted men, or more than 46 per cent., have qualified as marksmen. Company E, 13th Infantry (Capt. H. C. Pratt), is only 1 per cent. behind them. In these two cases the post commanders as well have exhibited marked interest in the instruction of their commands in musketry. Special attention is invited to the amount and excellence of the firing at the longer ranges, and the general attention given to "Estimating Distance Drill."

The importance of skirmish firing is very far from proper appreciation. It is hoped that the interest exhibited in this practice by the fifty-two competitors in the Department con-

test may be communicated to many of the companies represented therein.

The mounted firing by cavalry, with carbine and revolver, prescribed by General Orders No. 57, c. s., from the Headquarters of the Army, has been attended to only by a very small proportion of the twenty-seven troops of cavalry serving in this Department. It is recommended that the subject receive the special attention of the Inspector-General of the Department during his official visits at posts and cantonments.

The monthly reports of Instructors of Musketry at most posts show that the theoretical instruction of officers in musketry by recitation has been general throughout the year.

No competition for the Nevada Trophy has been reported up to this time, and the records of this office contain no reports of best firing, which comply with the conditions prescribed in General Orders No. 52, c. s., from the Headquarters of the Army, governing this competition. This fact is largely attributable to the great amount of field service and fatigued duty performed by the troops in this Department, which renders it impossible with most companies to get 80 per cent. of the entire strength of the company to the targets frequently during any one month.

Facilities for gallery firing during the winter months have been greatly increased, but are still inadequate.

It is expected that every troop and company in the department will be supplied with reloading tools and materials in a few weeks.

By reference to the accompanying report all ranges and facilities for instruction in musketry at the several posts required by General Orders No. 97, c. s., from the Headquarters of the Army, it will be seen that few post commanders report suitable rooms for use as galleries. This difficulty may be largely overcome by the simple means of providing outdoor shelter as described in General Orders No. 26, c. s., from these headquarters.

In pursuance of the subject of arms and ammunition, it seems proper to report that I find a very general, and I think, reasonable objection on the part of marksmen of all departments, represented here the past season to the use of two rifles and two kinds of ammunition in their practice and contests. They see no reason why they should not use the superior arm at all ranges, and avoid the complications and annoyances of keeping in mind the differences of elevation and allowances for wind and drift of two arms. The use of a superior arm only in contests at ranges beyond 600 yards, destroys the soldier's confidence in his service rifle at those ranges, and prevents his improving himself with the arm and at the ranges he would have under conditions of actual warfare.

The difficulty of leading with the long range rifle now in use would probably be overcome by the use of a harder bullet and a different lubricant.

There has been great improvement in rifle ranges in the department during the past year. The Laidley revolving targets have given entire satisfaction. The wooden posts for these targets might be supplied by the Quartermaster's Department at distant stations at much less expense, and with less delay than from the arsenals, as at present. The Brinton (New Jersey) system of target in use at the Army range at Fort Leavenworth, at the suggestion of Captain Shorkley, has proved an entire success, and, excepting the 1,000 yards at C targets, which differ in construction from the A and B targets, are, I think, superior to the Laidley system, though much more expensive, too much so, probably, to warrant their general use at posts.

I recommend that the two C targets at the Army range be replaced by four others of different pattern (either the Laidley or Brinton upright movement). A continuous butt should be built in rear of all the targets to make the road in rear of them and also the approach to Sheridan's drive perfectly safe during firing.

I respectfully recommend that the department contest and preliminary practice, therefore, take place hereafter on the Army range, to avoid depriving the nine companies at the post of Fort Leavenworth of the use of their range during the two best target months of the year, as was the case the past season. During the months of August and September last when other garrisons were firing for classification, the companies at Fort Leavenworth were deprived of that opportunity, their range being in use by the department team.

The camp of the competitors of 1882 was, I think, a decided success. The experiences of the previous year had enabled me to anticipate most wants, and others were promptly supplied. Competitors from other posts brought three dollars each from their company funds for the purchase of vegetables, etc., and the companies at this post contributed more than an equivalent in vegetables from their garden. Each officer had a hospital tent floored and furnished with an iron bunk, bedstead, table, chairs, and camp stools, and water buckets. Every two enlisted men had a wall tent, similarly furnished and floored.

The men had four hospital tents pitched together as a mess tent and three similar tents as kitchens. A set of stone table ware for ninety men was purchased from the proceeds of the sale of copper cartridge cases; this is still on hand for future use. Two hospital tents were pitched together, floored, and furnished as a club or reading room for the officers, and similar provision made for the enlisted men.

In this connection I desire to add my testimony as to the already recognized efficiency and skill of Captain Loyd Wheaton, 20th Infantry, in all the duties he was called upon to discharge as captain of the Department team and commanding officer of the camp.

To him, more than to any one besides, belongs the credit of the success of our team and the general satisfaction of the officers and men competing.

While the enlisted men's mess was fairly good, it was, perhaps, not better than the average company mess. The increased commutation of rations while travelling from 75 cents to \$1.50 per diem is regarded by many as liberal, but when it is considered that soldiers as well as officers are charged one dollar for each meal, or three dollars per day in portions of New Mexico and Colorado, the liberality is not apparent.

As a result of the insufficient allowance to competitors, some officers and enlisted men are said to "shoot off" in the preliminary competition at their posts, to avoid being ordered here and thereby incurring debts by coming. Neither of these alternatives should be necessary, and so long as it is so, the best marksmen will not be obtained nor the prescribed contests be a true index of Army marksmanship. A per diem allowance of at least \$1.50 for officers and men alike from the time they leave their posts until they return thereto (furloughs and leaves of absence excepted), would, I think, bring more marksmen to the front.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

In addition to the recommendations already made in this report, in connection with subjects especially reported upon,

I take the liberty of adding the following as the result of the experience of the marksmen of this Department representing fifty-two companies in the recent contest:

1st. Wavering shots should be allowed in all contests; they are not opposed to the condition of actual service, are permitted at Creedmoor, and will enable marksmen of the Army to make higher records for comarison with those of militiamen who are universally permitted them. They have heretofore been objected to by marksmen of this Department in matches because they are not provided for in tactics or orders, and have consequently not been permitted in preliminary matches or practice here.

2d. So many and radical differences exist in individual positions, firing kneeling (even to burrowing the most of the right foot in the ground) that it seems desirable to adhere strictly to the tactical position at 300 yards.

3d. Streamers for Army ranges should be larger than those now furnished, and weighted at discretion as at Creedmoor. The higher winds at most posts in this Department cannot be indicated by the flags now supplied.

4th. The time heretofore prescribed for preliminary practice for Department and other matches should be considerably shortened and the matches lengthened to at least five days and preferably six.

I am well assured that this is the wish of a large majority of the competitors from the several Departments here the past summer.

5th. Previous recommendations for team instead of individual matches, are renewed. It was generally discussed and proved by the officers of the various teams with whom I conversed. The proposed change admits of instruction and consequent improvement, whereas the present system discourages it. As it now is, Sergeant A will not give Private B his allowance for wind or elevation after he has himself fired, nor is the captain of the team permitted to instruct or advise him about it, while either would be court-martialed for failing to do so on the skirmish line.

6th. Many marksmen are now wearing three pairs of marksman's buttons on the collar; some few have four sets. It is suggested that silver plated, substantially made crossed rifles be issued in place of the third pair of buttons, this badge to be worn on the breast, a clasp to be added thereto for each subsequent year in which the marksman qualified. More than one pair of buttons seem an undesirable addition to the collar.

7th. It is believed that the publication in the Army Register of the various Department, Division and Army Teams would be useful and have a good effect on marksmen.

A copy of G. O. No. 26, c. s., from these Headquarters, which prescribes the system of instruction laid out for the troops in this Department during the coming winter months is enclosed herewith for ready reference as a result of the past year's experience herein referred to.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. C. MANNING,
1st Lieut. 23d Inf., Gen. Instr. Musketry.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE U. S. SANITARIUM.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., Feb. 16, 1883.

Being casually at this place, from curiosity, I have thought a few lines on this subject might be of interest, and perhaps benefit some. The Hot Springs of Arkansas are reached from the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad by a narrow gauge railroad from Malvern station, and by the price for 20 miles of \$2 it might properly be called a broad gauge. The town is located in a narrow pass in the mountains, and runs nearly north and south about one mile. About midway from the east side springs and flows the water from which so many cures are effected. At its source an egg can be boiled, and when received in the bath tubs it has a temperature of 140 degrees and over. The *modus operandi* of a bath is simply to enter a waiting room; a man prepares your bath at such a temperature as you desire, commencing at about 94 degrees, and running up to 100, or a few degrees more. A thermometer shows you its warmth; you disrobe, and lay in the tub, and drink hot water; a sand glass is at hand, and when nine minutes expire you call your man, when you are rubbed dry, re-dress, and go into the waiting room to "sweat it off." When cooled off the business of the day is over except drinking the water, which is done at all hours and in large quantities, and said to be as efficacious as the baths. The vapor and electric baths are sometimes added to the above.

There are several bathing houses, all about the same, but the one to see is that for the poor, or free, called the "mud hole," and at certain hours one can go and see the place, filled with verily the lame, halt and blind—a pool of Sileam, from whence comes every diseased one cured. There are certainly wonderful effects produced by the water in numerous cases, and where such is not possible the general tone of the system is strengthened. Some have told me that coming here doubled up with rheumatism and unable to walk, they have left perfectly cured. One of the officers of the Army who, when in Libby, was inoculated with bad virus, came here in a miserable state, and to-day there is no evidence of his misfortune; so that, for the Army, the benefits to be derived are great, and Senator Logan will be thanked some day for securing the appropriation for what may be called the U. S. Sanitarium, and at which officers and soldiers, if not cured, will at least have relief from sufferings caused by "exposure while in their line of duty."

I ought to add, that these Hot Springs are run by the devil, as they are accounted for in this way, and that he "heals his own friends," so that those who come and receive no benefit, can feel assured of their future welfare.

En route here I stopped for a few days at Little Rock Barracks, and not having met Col. Bainbridge, the commanding officer, for 27 years, it was not surprising he failed to discover that I was not Mr. Jones, as introduced. Time has dealt kindly with him, however, which is more than can be said of his post. For one in civilization, with a pretty location and surroundings, it is not kept in the repair and condition as would indicate a very large use of the Treasury moneys, but it is to be hoped for the credit of the service, if not for the pleasure of the people of Little Rock, at least a fence looking like one will be erected, to properly inclose the beautiful grounds, with its grand old shade trees.

X. X.

A WELL-FITTING shirt is not only a luxury but a necessity to comfort. Ira Perego, of 128-130 Fulton street, New York, has justly attained a wide celebrity for the make, material and excellent fit of his shirts. His stock comprises, besides, hosiery, gloves and gentlemen's underwear of every description, and he makes a specialty of furnishing outfits for officers of the Army and Navy at the most reasonable prices. As a change of season is at hand, when a change in underwear becomes necessary, those desiring to replenish their wardrobe will do well to give Mr. Perego a trial. His establishment is most convenient of access and central, being underneath the "Commercial Advertiser" Building, corner of Fulton and Nassau streets.

LOSS OF THE ASHUELOT.

An Associated Press despatch received at Washington on the 21st reported the loss of the U. S. steamer *Ashuelot* on the Asiatic Station, and the Secretary of the Navy received the following cable despatch from Capt. Skerrett, who commands the *Richmond*:

Ashuelot total loss, Lamook Island. Eleven enlisted men lost. Remainder on *Richmond*. Admiral in *Monocacy* at wreck.

SKERRETT.

At the last report there were on board 111 sailors and 16 marines.

The following is the latest list of her officers: Commander, Horace E. Mullan; Lieut. Comdr., A. S. Iverson; Lieut., A. B. Wyckoff (Lieut. H. T. Stockton recently left her sick); Master, F. S. Hotchkiss; Naval cadets: W. T. Webster, R. Stewart, S. H. Wright and Samuel H. Williamson; Mate, A. T. Callender; P. A. Enga, Jas. Entwistle and R. R. Leitch; P. A. Surgeon, S. H. Dickson; Paymaster, E. W. Whitehouse; Asst. Eng., J. McC. Pickrell; Pay Officer's Clerk, David Monat. Some officer was probably transferred to her in place of Lieut. Stockton. It is stated that in a letter received two months ago by an officer at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Passed Assistant Engineer Entwistle was reported as in the hospital at Hong Kong suffering from a climatic disease, and his being on duty is, therefore, doubtful.

The *Ashuelot* was a double-end paddle-wheel iron steamer, of 786 tons, built under contract made in Aug. 1863, at Boston, by Donald McKay. She cost originally about \$997,000. The cost of repairs on her to Oct. 1, 1881, amounted to \$355,274.78. She has been on the Asiatic Station since the close of the war, and was in service as a blockader. She was at Shanghai January 4—last mail from her.

During the year 1880 she was completely dismantled and extensively repaired at a cost of \$100,000, iron beams being substituted for the wooden ones. She carried four 8-inch smooth bores, two 60 lb. rifles, and a saluting battery of four howitzers. Her crew was described in 1880 as an indifferent one, her surgeon stating that he expresses "the general conviction of the officers in stating it to be the worst set of men, as a whole, with which they have been connected." Thirty nationalities were represented, and, with the exception of the marines, most of the men were shipped on the station, and were the best obtainable under the circumstances. Of the seamen on board of her at last accounts 55 were enlisted for general service on the Asiatic Station, 23 for special service, and 33 were enlisted in the United States and sent out to China. The crew was made up of 15 Chinese, 7 Japanese, and following

seamen:

Anderson, S. E., Sweden.
Anderson, J. E., Sweden.
Abrahamson, J., Germany.
Almy, Charles D. U. S.
Adair, W. H., Scotland.
Anderson, Robert, Sweden.
Barry, Robert, Scotland.
Brown, Robert, Sweden.
Brown, C., Sweden.
Braun, A., Germany.
Braden, John J., New York.
Bartow, Joseph, England.
Barnum, Wm. T., New York.
Bohn, Paul, Germany.
Brantsch, Carl, Germany.
Corrall, John, Ireland.
Carroll, Patrick, Ireland.
Crone, St. Leger, Ireland.
Callip, W. G., Germany.
Clancy, Cornelius, Ireland.
Carlson, O. E., Finland.
Collins, F. W., Pennsylvania.
Cole, Richard, New York.
Downey, Thomas G., Md.
Dunn, Charles, Maryland.
Dittlow, Theodore, Denmark.
Dittmann, H. A., Germany.
Dillon, Peter, Ireland.
Farris, John, New Jersey.
Groman, W., Germany.
George, Nicholas, Greece.
Godeberg, C. P., Germany.
Greenwood, A., Connecticut.
George, F. W., Germany.
Grinn, Charles, Germany.
Hollingsworth, Thomas, Eng.
Holst, Henry, Germany.
Hjarne, Thomas, Sweden.
Henrichs, John, Germany.
Jensen, Martin S., Denmark.
Johnson, C. G., Sweden.
Jeffries, Richard S., N. J.
Johnson, John, Sweden.
Jogola, Japan.
Knott, J., London.

Kloch, Christian, Denmark.
Kenny, W. C., New York.
Leary, John J., Connecticut.
Larsen, Julius, Denmark.
Le Noury, J., Isle of Jersey.
Lang, J. H., Germany.
Lund, John, Denmark.
Mackey, Richard, Ireland.
Morris, J., Isle of Bourbon.
McClellan, John, Scotland.
McCarthy, Daniel J., Mass.
McCarthy, D., Washington.
Mitchell, E., Greece.
Moller, V., Germany.
Minehane, James, Ireland.
McCabe, A. C., Ireland.
Moany, W., Ireland.
McDon, John, New York.
Mullon, Henry, Ireland.
McClellan, Thomas, Ireland.
McLair, Carl, Russia.
Nelson, Neils, Norway.
Nikolaev, Pedros, Turkey.
O'Brien, P., Portland, Me.
Pedersen, Hans, Norway.
Pedersen, Peter, Norway.
Richards, John, Ireland.
Rehberg, A. F., Prussia.
Robinson, W. R., England.
Rechenbach, Fritz, Germany.
Schulze, Hermann, Germany.
Silvertsen, H. J., Norway.
Sims, Elmer, New Jersey.
Somers, Frank, Italy.
Thiel, Joseph, Buenos Ayres.
Toms, Thomas, England.
Thomas, George, Greece.
Thompson, Henry, Holland.
Voris, George, New York.
Valentine, George, West Ind.
Villie, John, West Indies.
Willis, John, England.
Wohlrab, B. E., New York.
Wein, F. W., Sweden.
Wilson, Charles, Austin.

The *Ashuelot* was an eight or nine knot vessel, with a maximum speed reported by the Engineer Bureau at 11.3 knots, with 491 indicated horse power. She was reported two years ago as having a prospective life of twenty years, and was in good condition, though not a fit vessel to send to sea. The *Herald's* Washington correspondent reports that there has never been an admiral ordered to duty on that station (Asiatic Station) who, before leaving here, has not resolved never to send either the *Ashuelot* or the *Monocacy* to sea. The necessities of the service have, however, overruled their

judgment, and both vessels have performed their share of cruising.

THE NAVY.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

Iron-clads are indicated by a star (*).

North Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Cooper.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Allen V. Reed. Arrived at Key West on the 11th inst. from Cabanas. All well.

Commander Reed, in a report from Key West, dated Feb. 13, gives an account of the movements of this vessel. When at Aspinwall about one-half of the officers went over the railroad to Panama, and their general report of the progress of the work is about the same as that of last year, viz., that great preparations are being made, but no excavations of any importance. The *Alliance* left Aspinwall, Jan. 29, and anchored Feb. 6 off Bahama Honda, where she remained a day and a half. The town is about 8 miles inland, and a mine and a half is the nearest point to which a boat can get to it. A cordial welcome was extended by the commanding officer of a small gunboat stationed there, who took much trouble to assist Commander Reed in every way, and accompanied him in all his official visits—providing horses for seven officers to visit the town. He placed a pilot at the disposal of the *Alliance*, as there are no regular pilots. The vessel anchored at the entrance to the harbor. Commander Reed says no large vessel should go in without the assistance of some one who knows the channel, unless in a case of necessity. On the 8th, proceeded to Mariel, 24 miles distant, and were received kindly by the commandant of Fort San Elias, who accompanied Comdr. Reed on an official visit to the town. The entrance to the harbor, though narrow, is well buoyed on account of three Spanish vessels having been lost there. It would afford an excellent harbor of refuge for moderate sized vessels. It is the only properly buoyed harbor on the coast of Cuba. Comdr. Reed, Feb. 9, proceeded to Cabanas and remained one day. There is no U. S. consular representative in either of the three places above named, but the usual calls were made on the Spanish authorities, both military and civil. Left Cabanas on the 10th, and arrived at Key West on the 11th. Filled up with coal, and left for Havana on the 14th. Would return to Key West, March 6, for coal. Health of ship's company good.

KEARSARGE, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Wm. R. Brugman. Arrived at Curacao, Jan. 27, from Trinidad and Lagayra. Left the 8th inst. for Savanilla, Cartagena and Colon. All were in excellent health, and the call at Curacao was greatly enjoyed by both the people and officers of the ship.

Officers on board the *Kearsarge*, Jan. 1, 1883. At sea: Commander Wm. R. Brugman; Lieutenant Commander Isaac Hazlett; Lieutenants J. V. Bleeker and Wm. A. Hadden; Masters Lucien Young, O. W. Lowry, Walter C. Cowles and J. M. Robinson; Midshipmen J. H. Hetherington and Theodore G. Dewey; Cadet Midshipmen Alex. R. Haason, W. R. M. Field and E. D. Anderson; Surgeon M. C. Drennan; Passed Assistant Paymaster John N. Speel; Chief Engineer Wm. S. Smith; Passed Assistant Engineer John Pemberton; Assistant Engineer F. J. Schell; Cadet Engineers Robert W. Gatewood and C. C. Willis; 2d Lieutenant Marines, Wm. P. Biddle; Pay Officer's Clerk, F. Codman Ford.

SWATARA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. Left Norfolk yard on the 14th for Fort Norfolk, to take in powder. Will proceed this week on an extended cruise, touching first at Cayenne, Fr. Guiana, Paragola, Dutch Guiana; thence north of the Orinoco, to the island of Trinidad, along coast of Venezuela, to La Guayra Puerto Cabello and the island of Curacao; Georgetown, Br. Guiana; Savanilla, Cartagena, Aspinwall, Ports of British Honduras, Vera Cruz and Key West.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 22 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Robert F. Bradford. Rear Admiral Cooper reports the *Tennessee* at St. Thomas, Jan. 22.

VANDALIA, 2d rate, 8 guns, Capt. Rush R. Wallace. Expects to reach Aspinwall on the 1st of March, and New Orleans March 15. Arrived at Cape Haytien, Hayti, Jan. 31.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns, Commander Frank Wildes. Expects to reach New Orleans March 15. Arrived at Vera Cruz Feb. 13.

South Atlantic Station—Rear-Admiral Peirce Crosby.

[Ordered to the Asiatic Station.]

BROOKLYN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Capt. A. W. Weaver. Arrived at Montevideo, Feb. 2, from Patagonia.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, (f. s. a. s.), Comdr. Oliver A. Batcheller. Temporarily used as flagship. At Montevideo, Nov. 1.

European Station—Rear-Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson.

(Ordered to be relieved by Commo. Chas. H. Baldwin.)

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Bancroft Gherardi. Left Plymouth, England, February 19, for Southampton.

NIPISIC, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Henry B. Seely. Arrived at New York, Feb. 21, 1883, after an absence of nearly three years, having left Norfolk, April 1, 1880, for a cruise in the Mediterranean. She is at present at anchor off Bedloe's Island, awaiting orders. She will shortly be examined with reference to her fitness for returning to sea, (after which it is thought she will go out of commission.) A reporter who visited the vessel found the officers in an uncomfortable state of uncertainty regarding the future, and an uncomfortable state of physical discomfort in view of their long cruise in the mild climate of the Mediterranean and the equatorial course which they took in coming home from Lisbon. She has on board, in strict confinement, the murderer, Stephen P. Mirzan, who is to be sent to the Albany Penitentiary to serve out a life sentence. Among her other passengers there are a number of broken-down seamen, bound to the hospital or the Sailors' Snug Harbor. Three emalmed bodies—two of deceased officers and one of a child—are also aboard, besides a ton and a half of gun cotton, procured in England, and consigned to the Ordnance Department at Newport. It was carefully packed and dampened and was considered quite safe so long as it was kept wet and cool. But the thermometer was watched very carefully during the voyage. The *Nipisic* has been kept very hard at work since she went abroad. It had entered over forty ports, including Genoa, Messina, Alexandria, Cairo, Syracuse, Naples, Leghorn, Malaga, Gibraltar, Barcelona, Trieste, Venice, Joppa, Smyrna, Lisbon, Palermo and many others. It was one of the American fleet which accompanied the Admiral into Alexandria immediately after the bombardment

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Nichol Ludlow. Arrived at Genoa from Villefranche Dec. 27.

Pacific Station—Rear-Admiral A. K. Hughes.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Edgar C. Merriman. At Sitka, Jan. 25.

ALASKA, 3d rate, 13 guns, Put out of commission at Mare Island on the 13th inst.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Alex. H. McCormick, At Callao, Dec. 14, waiting orders of Navy Department.

HARTFORD, 2d rate, 16 guns, Capt. C. C. Carpenter. At Callao, Jan. 17th.

Capt. C. C. Carpenter, commanding the *Hartford*, reports from Callao, Peru, Jan. 21, as follows: "I left Valparaiso on the 3d and made the passage under sail, having light weather. I found the United States steamers *Essex*, *Iroquois* and *Onward* in port. I understood the flagship *Pennacola*, Rear Admiral Hughes, is on her way here from Panama. I called upon our Minister, Mr. Partridge, on my arrival, who informs me that there is no change in the situation of affairs in Peru. During the trip from Boston in this ship to this port, with the exception of the decks leaking (which were called at Montevideo), and carrying away some construction iron work, this ship has proved to be in all weather staunch and well fitted."

IROQUOIS, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. James H. Sands. At Callao, Jan. 11.

LAKEWANNA, 3d rate, 9 guns, Capt. Henry Wilson. Sailed from Callao for Honolulu, Dec. 14.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Commander Thomas M. Gardner. Store ship. At Callao, Peru.

PENACOLA, 2d rate, 23 guns (f. s. p. a.), Capt. Joseph Fyfe. Cable despatch reports her arrival at Callao.

WACHUSSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns, Comdr. Frederick Pearson. Sailed from Mare Island, Jan. 20, for Honolulu.

Asiatic Station—Rear-Admiral J. M. B. Clift.

[To be relieved by Rear Admiral Pierce Crosby.]

ASHUELOT, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. Horace E. Mullan. At Shanghai Jan. 4.

ENTERPRISE, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. A. S. Barker. Arrived at St. Vincent, Cape de Verde Islands, Feb. 2.

JUNIATA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Comdr. P. F. Harrington. *MONOCACY*, 3d rate, 6 guns, Commander Chas. S. Cotton. At Nagasaki Dec. 30.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers, Lieut.-Commander Geo. D. B. Gildden. Left Kobe Oct. 31, arrived at Nagasaki Nov. 3; left Nagasaki on the 8th and arrived at Chefoo, China, Nov. 15. Anchored at Tokio on the 17th, and on the 18th arrived at Tientsin, where she is now in winter quarters.

RICHMONT, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a. s.) Capt. Jos. S. Skerrett. Arrived at Hong Kong Jan. 2.

Apprentice Training Squadron—Commodore S. B. Luce.

JAMESTOWN, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Commander Allan D. Brown. Arrived at Barbadoes on Feb. 10. All well on board.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 24 guns, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Gunner ship. Wintering at the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, 16 guns, sails, flagship of training squadron, Commander Charles E. Clark. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, R. I.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 12 guns, Comdr. Wm. C. Wise. Training ship. Arrived at Barbadoes Feb. 4.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. Henry C. Taylor. Training ship. Left New York, Feb. 19, to take on her powder, and has gone to sea on a cruise to Lisbon, St. Vincent, etc. Expected to return to Newport, R. I., May 15.

Address during cruise, care of U. S. Consul at Lisbon, up to steamer of March 2, from New York. After that date, and until steamer of March 24 from New York, care of U. S. Consul, Santa Cruz, Island of Tenerife, via London.

On Special Service.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, Commander S. Dana Greene. At Washington. Ready for service.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns, Comdr. Albert Kautz. At Erie, Penn. Laid up for the winter.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns, Captain A. W. Johnson. Sailed Feb. 19 from the Boston Navy-yard for St. Domingo.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. John W. Philip. Arrived at Mare Island on the 12th, and went into dock.

St. Mary's, sails, 8 guns, Commander Edwin M. Shepard. N. Y. School ship. Anchored in winter quarters at foot of 23d street, East River, N. Y.

TALLAPOOSA, 4th rate, 3 howitzers. Commander Augustus G. Kellogg. Left New York, February 20, for Norfolk and Washington.

WYOMING, 3d rate, 7 guns. At Annapolis, Md. Not in commission.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

COLORADO, 1st rate, 30 guns, Capt. David B. Harmany. Receiving ship, New York.

FORTUNE, 4th rate, Pilot George Glass. At Norfolk.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Bushrod B. Taylor. Receiving ship. At Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 6 guns, Capt. Chas. S. Norton. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

MIANTONOMO, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. Francis J. Higginson. At the Washington Navy yard.

PAWNEE, 3d rate, sails, Ensign Wm. Braunersreuther. Hospital ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PHLOX, 4th rate, Mate B. G. Perry. At Annapolis.

PILGRIM, 4th rate, Pilot B. F. Chadwick. Service tug at League Island.

SNOWDROP, 4th rate, Pilot F. Reynolds. Service tug at Norfolk yard.

St. Louis, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island.

WABASH, 1st rate, 26 guns, Comdr. F. M. Bunce. Receiving ship, Boston.

WYANDOTT, 4th rate, 3 guns, Lieut. Wm. H. Webb. Has taken the place of the *Passaic* as the receiving ship at the Navy-yard, Washington.

The Surgeon General of the Marine Hospitals has made a report in opposition to the transfer of his bureau to the Navy. He gives a full historical sketch, showing that the bureau originated with a petition to Congress in 1791 by the Marine Society of Boston. He maintains that the hospitals are economically conducted and that naval surgeons have no monopoly of medical knowledge.

The iron-clad *Ajax*, Lieut. J. A. Chesley, (temp.); *Catfish*, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; *Lehigh*; *Manhasset*, Lieut. James A. Chesley; *Manhattan*; are laid up at City Point, Va.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE citizens of Newport, R. I., subscribed at a meeting, recently, the \$2,500 necessary to complete the \$15,000 fund for a monument to Commodore Perry, the hero of Lake Erie, who was a native of Newport. The State voted \$7,500 and the city of Newport \$5,000 of the amount.

THE court of inquiry into the method of purchasing supplies for the torpedo station by Paymaster Rand, adjourned February 21, having completed the taking of testimony. Considerable testimony was taken since the resumption of the court. Captain Selfridge testified that, after he had made his report to the Secretary of the Navy on the purchase of the articles in dispute, Paymaster Rand made inquiries in regard to the prices of articles required for the stations, and these showed that the manufacturers made 37 per cent. profit. Paymaster Rand admitted having certified on the first requisition that the cost was the lowest market price, and he believed so, because the firm had been recommended to him by his predecessor and commanding officer, and because the prices had been submitted to the latter and approved, and because his duties at that time and his experience at the station were such that he had no opportunity to make inquiries, which he had made in every case since. As soon as he found the articles could be obtained cheaper, he immediately got much better prices.

THE *Tallapoosa*, Commander Kellogg, which arrived in New York, Monday, from Portsmouth, N. H., having on board the remains of the late Rear Admiral Beaumont and child, left Tuesday afternoon for Washington. The caskets containing the remains were on a platform under the hurricane deck and fastened securely by four small ropes. Two pieces of blue cloth, held in place by four heavy lead weights at each corner, served as a covering. The *Tallapoosa* touched at Boston on the 17th, Newport the 18th, and New London the 19th, arriving here after encountering a severe storm. She is expected to arrive in Washington on the 25th.

THE Secretary of the Navy has recommended to Congress an appropriation of \$90,000 to carry out the plans of Civil Engineer Menocal, U. S. N., for improving the Eastern branch of the Potomac. These plans were examined and reported on by a Board of Officers, of which Commo. Sommes was president, and approved.

It is pretty definitely settled that the bodies of Lieut. Commander De Long and his associates of the *Jeannette* will not be brought to the United States this winter. They will be put in alcohol, or in an ice receptacle, at Yakutsk, for preservation, until cold, freezing weather sets in next fall, and then taken to Orenburg, where the caskets await them. The necessary delay in securing permission to remove the bodies, and in accomplishing their removal, renders this course indispensable.

THE Secretary of the Navy, on Feb. 19, answered the resolution of the Senate calling for information regarding the organization and proceedings of the Naval Advisory Board. The answer was ordered to be printed. It embraces all the orders to and reports of the Board (most of which have already appeared in the JOURNAL). The document will be a complete history of the Board and the efforts of Secretary Chandler to secure new cruisers of the most approved character.

THE new steamship *Guayandotte*, of the Old Dominion line, came in collision with the U. S. monitor *Ajax*, on Feb. 17, at the anchorage of the monitor fleet in the James River, about a quarter of a mile below City Point. The time was just between daylight and dark. The weather was clear and the lights of all the monitors burning brightly. The *Guayandotte* struck the *Ajax*, which was at her regular anchorage, astern, on the starboard side, causing the *Ajax* to pitch and roll violently, and loosened four of her stern plates by the force of the concussion. The port anchor of the *Guayandotte*, which was "catted," swept the deck of the *Ajax*, clearing it of its awnings, stanchions and chains, and carrying one of its anchors overboard. Nearly the whole of the starboard deck of the *Ajax* was dived of everything movable. Otherwise the damage was not serious, being estimated at about \$2,000. It is not known yet what will be the amount of the claim the Old Dominion Co. will bring against the United States.

THE Court of Inquiry, of which Captain Chandler is president, was ordered to reconvene at Newport on the 19th inst., for a reconsideration of the matters before them, and to supply omissions, etc.

THE limits of the South Atlantic Station have been extended to embrace the Eastern Coast of Africa and the adjoining islands South of the Equator and West of the Cape of Good Hope. A vessel of the South Atlantic Squadron will be sent at least once a year to this quarter, to look after American commerce and interests. As the South Atlantic Squadron is now reduced to two vessels that arrangement may involve an increase of force.

THE Naval Advisory Board, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Chiefs of the Bureau of Ordnance, Steam Engineering, and Construction and Repair, were in conference at the Navy Department, Feb. 22.

THE *Albatross*, the new ship built for the U. S. Fish Commission, has had to be taken back to Wilmington for changes in her machinery. The engines designed by the builders were modified to suit the theories of the gentlemen in charge of the Light House Board, and the consequence is they must now be altered back to the original design, at a cost to the Government of \$1,000. The *Albatross*, when finished and ready for service, will be a most useful craft.

PASSED Asst. Surg. W. W. G. Willson, U. S. N., is on trial for insubordination and wilful neglect of duty. The specifications are disrespectful to his superior officer—the Surgeon of the *Alaska*—and refusal to give attention to a sick member of the crew. The detail for the court is as follows: Capt. B. B. Taylor, Commanders C. M. Schoonmaker, J. F. McGleary and O. L. Huntington; Medical Director A. L. Gibson, Medical Inspector E. S. Bogert; Lieut. E. F. McClellan, Perry Garret, and A. O. Dillingham, with Capt. R. L. Meade as Judge-Advocate.

THE Fort Monroe correspondent of the Norfolk Landmark, writes: The *Savannah* is here awaiting her final inspection before proceeding on her cruise to the West Indies. The Board of Officers are expected Feb. 20, and as the inspection is more or less a matter of routine she will probably be ready to sail about Feb. 21. Lieut. J. W. Graydon, U. S. N., who has been here for the past six weeks arranging for some torpedo experiments, has, after much trouble, finally perfected his system, laid his cable, and sent out some "dummies" in a satisfactory manner. It is understood that some real ones will be received here next week, when the merits of the system will be thoroughly tested.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

FEB. 17.—Commander George Dewey, late in command of the *Janina* and at present in the Hospital at Malta, has been ordered to return to the United States when the condition of his health will permit. He has also been authorized to remain in Europe a reasonable time for medical treatment.

FEB. 19.—Surgeon James A. Hawke, to the receiving ship *Wabash* on the 25th of February.

Paymaster John R. Carmody, to special duty in the Bureau of Navigation.

Assistant Engineer Wm. R. King, to the *Swatara*.

FEB. 20.—Ensign James H. Oliver, to attend the course of artillery, which commences at Fortress Monroe on the 1st of May next.

FEB. 21.—Passed Assistant Surgeon Howard E. Ames, to the receiving ship *Colorado*.

Chaplain Thomas A. Gull, to the receiving ship *St. Louis*.

Chaplain Edward K. Rawson, to the Navy-yard, Boston.

FEB. 23.—Bargee Thos. Hildard, to appear before the Retiring Board.

PASSED Assistant Paymaster John R. Martin, to temporary

duty as inspector of provisions at the Navy-yard, New York.

DETACHED.

FEB. 19.—Commodore Thomas S. Phelps, from the command of the Navy-yard, Mare Island, on the 15th of March, and ordered to take steamer from New York via England to Montevideo and on his arrival to assume command of the South Atlantic Station.

Surgeon John L. Neilson, from the *Saratoga*, and placed on waiting orders.

Surgeon J. H. Clark, from the receiving ship *Wabash* on the 26th of February, and placed on waiting orders.

PASSED Assistant Surgeon Chas. A. Siegfried, from the receiving ship *Colorado*, and ordered to the training ship *Saratoga*.

Mate J. M. Creighton, from the receiving ship *Franklin*, and placed on waiting orders.

FEB. 20.—Ensign Stimson J. Brown, from duty at the Naval Observatory on the 28th of February, and detailed for special duty with the Solar Eclipse Expedition, which will embark from New York on the 1st of March next for Callao, Peru.

FEB. 23.—Passed Assistant Surgeon D. M. Guiteras, from special duty at Washington, and ordered to the *Swatara*.

PASSED Assistant Surgeon Wm. G. G. Willson, from the *Swatara*.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Assistant Surgeon Wm. Martin, for six months from March 1.

To Naval Cadet James H. Fitts, for six months from February 16.

To Commander Wm. Gibson, for six months from April 1, with permission to leave the United States.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

Gunner R. J. Hill, from February 19, 1883.

PROMOTED.

Cadet Engineer Harold P. Norton to be an Assistant Engineer in the Navy from June 10, 1881.

RESIGNED.

The resignation of Lieutenant-Commander H. H. Gorrings was accepted February 21 by the President.

RELIEVED.

Pay Inspector W. W. Williams, authorized to remain in Europe after being relieved until June 15, next.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending Feb. 21, 1888.

Francis Morris, commander, February 13, Newport, R. I.

MARINE CORPS.

DETACHED.

Captain McLane Titton, from duty in Washington, D. C., and ordered to the Naval Academy, Annapolis.

NAVY CONFIRMATION.

FEB. 19.—Master Samuel Seabury to be a Lieutenant in the Navy.

NAVAL ACADEMY TROUBLE.

A despatch from Annapolis, Md., Feb. 18, says: "Four cadet officers were reduced to the ranks last night, occasioned by Cadet Robert Harris Woods, of Virginia, of the first class, who is quartered on the ship *Santee*, making a statement to Capt. Ramsey that he did not see why he should be broken and quartered on the *Santee*, when other cadets who had taken part in the disturbances as he had, were now holding rank, with all their privileges restored. Capt. Ramsey asked him if he could back his statement. Woods did so, and reported 1st Capt. Chas. Walter Hazeltine, of Missouri, of the 1st class; Master Geo. W. Littlehale, of Pennsylvania, of the 1st class; 1st Lieut. Wm. H. Lawrence, of Pennsylvania, of the 2d class, and 1st Lieut. H. H. Balthis, of Illinois, of the 1st class. All of these were broken. Capt. Ramsey in his order expresses the sentiment that he regretted that Mr. Woods' action was not prompted by a sense of duty. The new appointments will be made next week."

In addition to the 18 or 20 naval cadets recommended to be dropped as deficient in studies and conduct at the recent semi-annual examination, there were about 40 others, also deficient, who will continue at the Academy, upon the recommendation of the Academic Board, and be re-examined in May, as well as warned of the consequences of a failure.

The Superintendent of the Academy has submitted to the Secretary of the Navy a full report of the insubordinate demonstrations of the Naval Cadets, on the 30th of January, and of his proceedings since then to preserve the discipline of the institution. All but four of the thirty-six cadets of the first class, who participated in the demonstration, have expressed regret at their course. These four remain impenitent, and their cases have been submitted to the Secretary of the Navy for such action as his judgment may dictate. They are C. E. Woodruff, C. J. Gross, W. A. McGrath, G. W. Littlehale, and H. H. Balthis.

TRIBUTE TO A NAVAL OFFICER.

THE *Alta California*, of Feb. 14, publishes the card which follows, with this comment: "It is not often nowadays that we are called upon to publish the record of exploits of this kind by officers of the Navy, and therefore it gives us the more pleasure to do it on the present occasion. A few more acts of this kind would do a great deal to restore the Navy to the popularity it once enjoyed."

EDITORS *ALTA*: As I find upon return to San Francisco it is impossible, owing to the regulations of the United States Naval Service, for my owners to make a suitable pecuniary recognition of the valuable services rendered to my vessel by Captain J. Phillips, commanding the United States steamer *Ranger*, I desire through your columns to publicly thank him, his officers and crew.

The barkentine *Katie Flickinger*, under my command, sailed from this port October 6th, 1887, for Salinas Cruz. Everything went well until October 18th, when a cyclone of the Gulf of California dismasted us and carried away all our boats. By rigging jury-masts and by good luck and a succession of fair winds we were enabled to reach within 40 miles of our port of destination on November 21st, 1887. Here we were becalmed, and as our water had run short and having no boats left with which to communicate with the land, we were getting very uneasy for our safety. Fortunately, the United States steamer *Ranger*, while on survey duty, sighted us, and, finding our disabled condition, bore down, offered us his hawser and towed us to a safe anchorage in Morra Ayucan. The second day after, she having made an important survey in the interim, her line was again passed to us and we were towed to our port of destination. The following day, a blow coming on, Captain Phillips, deeming our anchorage not one of safety, sent, uncollected, 30 of his men to my vessel,

hailed her in, moored and secured her. By his thoughtfulness and ability as a practical seaman, myself and crew were saved much hardship and suffering, and probably a shipwreck, and I trust that should Captain Phillips's vessel ever be obliged to make a signal of distress, some one of the many merchantmen whom he has assisted at different times along our coast will see it. It gives myself and my owners the greatest pleasure to give this public recognition of the able service rendered, because of the many innuendoes cast at the fast-decaying moral of the United States Navy. Again thanking Captain Phillips, his officers and crew, yours truly,

S. B. PETERSON, My Owner.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BOSTON NAVY-YARD.

BOSTON, Feb. 21, 1888.

The *Tallapoosa* was here last week and left on Saturday for Newport. She had on board the body of Rear Admiral Beaumont and his child.

The *Powhatan* sailed early in the week for the West Indies. Mails sent to Kingston, Jamaica, until March 19, to Aspinwall, U. S. C., until April 8, and Key West, Fla., after that will probably reach her.

Your readers may remember the shooting incident a year ago last fall, where it was claimed that parties outside the yard were injured by shots fired at target practice, and Capt. Chandler, Lieut.-Comdr. Train, and Lieut. Porter were sued for damages. The case came to trial recently, but the jury failed to agree, standing, as we hear, five for the plaintiffs and seven for the defendants.

A draft of twenty-four men for the *Powhatan* arrived just previous to her sailing. They were sent from New York. The *Powhatan* also takes out some boys for the Pacific Station.

Capt. Matthews, late of the *Powhatan*, is living at 46 Mount Vernon street, Charlestown.

It is rumored that Capt. Phythian will be ordered to the Torpedo Station when Capt. Solbridge's time expires.

Lieut. Porter was detached from the *Powhatan* just before she sailed and joined his family at Annapolis.

We hear that the *Hartford* has the reputation of being a very happy ship.

There has been quite a little ripple of excitement in naval circles in this vicinity owing to a report from Washington that the Rollins Bill is likely to become a law.

Chaplain Clark, who is detached from the *New Hampshire* on the 1st of March, will come to Boston to spend a month with his friends here.

Lieut.-Col. C. D. Hebb, U. S. M. C., in charge of the Marine Barracks at this station, reported on the 16th inst. from a week's leave in Washington.

Mate A. P. Bashford, U. S. N., was taken to the Chelsea Hospital on the 15th inst., sick, from the U. S. S. *Tallapoosa*.

Capt. Ralph Chandler, U. S. N., and Comdr. Chas. Y. Gridley left on Feb. 19 for the Torpedo Station at Newport, R. I., on the Court of Inquiry.

Ensign O. H. Gere, U. S. N., has returned from leave of absence to duty on board the receiving ship *Wabash*.

Capt. R. L. Phythian, U. S. N., in charge of the Ordnance Department at this station, returned Feb. 19 from Washington, where he has been engaged on temporary duty.

The U. S. S. *Powhatan*, which sailed Feb. 19 for the West Indies came here about three months ago from New York and has been undergoing extensive repairs. The ship has received new masts, fore and aft and new spars. New wire rigging has been introduced and new boats built. The old steam launch has been repaired, and a good piece of work has been done on her engines and boilers. She now has a very powerful set of engines. The vessel has also been patched here and there at the expense of about \$11,000. It is the intention of the Secretary of the Navy to have her touch at several ports in the West Indies, and then to visit the United States naval vessels. She will touch at Puerto Plata, San Domingo, first, and is due there March 1, and will call at Cape Haytien, Cape Nicholls, Mole, Port au Prince, Aux Cayes, Jacmel, San Domingo City, Port Royal, Jam., Carthage, and Aspinwall. She is due at the latter place April 16, where she will remain ten days to transfer a draft of 60 boys from the training ship *New Hampshire* to the U. S. steamer *Richmond* on the Pacific. The ship is to arrive at Key West May 3, where she will wait orders.

The friends of Pay Director A. H. Gilman U. S. N., in charge of the Provision and Clothing Department at this yard, will be glad to learn that he has so far recovered from his injuries received by falling, which confined him to his house, as to be out and attending to his department.

The spring machines, hawsers, and wire ropes now being made in the ropewalk are intended for the rigging loft at the Mare Island yard.

The schooner *Annie T. Daily*, now at the yard, finished unloading her timber Feb. 21.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

An order has been received from the Bureau of Yards and Docks to the Commandant of the Yard that the "Gen'l Maint." employees would get no money for February, as Congress had not passed the Deficiency Bill as yet, and until some action had been taken as regards appropriating money under the "Maint." head no money could be allowed, the appropriation having all been exhausted; consequently Commodore Upshur issued a circular order notifying the employees accordingly, and also leaving it to them to work and wait for their money or take their discharges. So far all hands are disposed to continue work.

Capt. E. E. Foster, head of the Equipment Department, who has been absent on board at the Navy Department for several weeks, has returned to the yard and resumed his duties.

Thursday, the 22d, being a national holiday, the yard was closed, and a salute fired from the saluting battery "Cob-Dock."

The *Tallapoosa* arrived at the Yard during the early part of the week, and after taking on board a large quantity of stores, etc., left for Washington via Philadelphia and Norfolk.

Master H. H. Hosley has reported for duty on the *Colorado*.

At a meeting of the Illinois Commandery Loyal Legion held at Chicago, Feb. 7, the following were elected members: Lieut. C. S. Millard, U. S. V.; Lieut. Col. J. S. Cooper, U. S. V.; Lieut. C. T. Boal, U. S. V.; Capt. J. C. McBride, late U. S. A.; Surgeon A. J. Hobart, U. S. V.; Col. W. B. Keeler, U. S. V., Capt. E. A. Blodgett, U. S. V.

THE District of Columbia Commandery of the Loyal Legion gave a special ladies' reception at the Arlington on Washington's birthday, Feb. 22; the object being to give the families of companions an opportunity to become acquainted with the objects of the Order and with each other.

LIEUT. G. F. E. Harrison, 3d U. S. Artillery, has been appointed adjutant of that post in place of Lieut. Simpson, ordered to Fort Monroe.

GEN. H. J. Hunt, Surgeon J. Campbell, Colonel J. J. Dana, Paymaster G. E. Gleason, Colonel H. C. Corbin, Colonel F. L. Guenther, Captains W. H. Bell and C. A. Woodruff, and Lieut. E. S. Dudley, U. S. A., of Newport Barracks, Ky., have taken temporary quarters at Cincinnati until the barracks are again habitable.

LIEUT. C. G. Woodward, 3d U. S. Artillery, of Little Rock Barracks, visited Louisville this week in connection with the purchase of artillery horses.

We regret to learn of the sudden death February 23 of the infant daughter of Major W. S. Debee, formerly of the Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army.

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1876.

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THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Senate having disposed of that wearisome sub-
ject, the Tariff, on Tuesday, the Army bill was taken
up early on Wednesday morning and was passed some
hours before the day expired. There was very little
discussion, due probably to the fact that many Senators
who usually take part in debate on Army matters hav-
ing become wearied over the prolonged fight over the
Tariff bill had taken a little holiday. There were not
more than twenty Senators present during the debate
on the bill. The House on Friday refused to concur in
the Senate's amendments, and the bill goes to a Com-
mittee of Conference, in which Messrs. Butterworth,
Burrows of Mich., and Ellis represent the House.

The formal reading of the bill was dispensed with,
and the amendments of the Appropriations Committee
read and acted on in their regular order. The first
amendment, increasing the appropriation for command-
ing general's office from \$1,500 to \$2,000, was agreed
to. The next, decreasing the amount for transportation
of recruits to \$110,000, was also agreed to. Mr. Logan
submitted a substitute for the amendment providing for
salaries for civilian clerks for Adjutant General's De-
partment at headquarters military divisions and depart-
ments. Mr. Plumb offered an amendment to the sub-
stitute, and it was adopted to read as follows:

For salaries of one hundred and seventeen civilian
clerks, namely: ten clerks at not exceeding \$1,500, and
one hundred and seven clerks at not exceeding \$1,200
per annum each, in lieu of the general service men on
duty at the headquarters of military divisions and de-
partments, \$143,400.

Provided further, That soldiers rendering the clerical
services above provided for shall be restored to duty
with their respective companies, or discharged from the
service.

The House proviso relating to the reduction of aides-
de-camp, which was stricken out by the committee, and
the insertion of the following clause provoked more
discussion than any other portion of the bill:

That no officers shall remain absent from his regiment
on duty at Washington city for a longer period than
three years at any one time, but this provision shall not
apply to officers on the staff of the commanding gen-
eral of the Army, nor to the officer in charge of the
publication of the records of the war of the rebellion, or
detached to work on the Washington Monument.

Mr. Logan argued on behalf of the retention of the
amendment proposed by the committee. Mr. Harrison
objected, claiming that the result of its adoption would
be to send officers on Signal duty back to their reg-
iments, unless an exception was made in their case, the
same as in the case of officer in charge of the records of
the war of the rebellion, and the officer in charge of the
monument. He was willing to vote for the amendment
if this exception was made. Mr. Maxey followed Mr.
Harrison, and in the course of his remarks offered an

amendment to the proviso excluding Signal officers
from its operations, as intended by Mr. Harrison.
Senator Logan said Signal duty was just what all off-
icers ought to learn, and with that end in view, he
offered the following as an amendment:

And that officers on duty in the Signal Corps shall be
ordered as follows: Four of said officers to be returned
during the year 1883 to their regiments; four to be re-
turned to their regiments during the year 1884; four
to be returned to their regiments during the year 1885,
and other officers detailed in their places.

The subject of the Signal Corps once reached, the
Senators could not restrain themselves from saying
something about the recent troubles in the bureau, and
as a consequence many pages of debate were taken up
in the Record on this subject. Both provisions, that of
the House which was stricken out by the Senate Com-
mittee pertaining to the reduction of aides and the
committee's amendment providing that no officer shall
remain away from his regiment for a longer period than
three years, were finally ruled out on a point of order
by Mr. Bayard, on the ground that it was obnoxious to
rule 49, which prohibits legislation in appropriation
bills. The law in this respect, therefore, remains as it
is.

The committee's amendment to strike out the follow-
ing was agreed to.

And section 1306 of the Revised Statutes is hereby so
amended as to strike out the word "fifty," where it
occurs in said section, and in lieu thereof inserting the
word "five."

The following amendment of the committee concern-
ing deposits with paymasters was adopted:

That commissioned officers of the Army not above the
rank of captain may make deposits with any Army
paymaster, not to exceed for any one year one-half of
their annual salary; said deposits, on sums not less than
\$50, to draw 3 per cent. interest, payable when with-
drawn: And provided further, that any officer making
deposits may draw the same on his check whenever the
accumulations shall amount to a sum equal to one year's
salary.

The provision concerning mileage to officers over
the shortest usually traveled routes was adopted as
amended by the committee. In its present shape it
reads as follows:

And from and after the passage of this act mileage
of officers of the Army shall be computed over the
shortest usually traveled routes between the points
named in the order, and the necessity for such travel
in the military service shall be certified to by the
officer issuing the order and stated in said order.

The amendment of the committee, making the
number of contract surgeons eighty instead of fifty,
as proposed by the House, was agreed to.

The clause abolishing the grade of Assistant Surgeon
General was ruled out on a point of order made by Mr.
Bayard. On this subject the following remarks passed
between Mr. Logan and Mr. Bayard:

Mr. Logan—I do not object to the Senator's raising
the point of order; of course I have no right to do so;
but I should like to give to the Senate the reason. Ob-
jection being made to the bill as recommended here, it
is taken for granted that I have put something very ob-
noxious in it. I notice the Senate passed over three or
four amendments that were legislation that the Senator
did not object to. It only shows what I said a while
ago, that where legislation happens to strike at some-
thing that is unfavorably considered by Senators, they
object to it, and where it does not they don't. The rea-
son for this I will give in a very few words.

The Medical Department of the Army has in it to-
day—

Mr. Bayard—May I say to the honorable Senator
that it is not a question of the merits or demerits of the
proposition? It is that upon an appropriation bill this
amendment is not proper. In the language of the rule,
it "shall not be received." It would be pertinent upon
a bill to reorganize the Army. Then I would listen
with a great deal of respect to the opinion of the Sen-
ator upon such subjects; but my objection is to the form
of the proposition.

Mr. Logan—I see what the Senator's objection is. I
was only astonished that he did not make the point on
other items, where legislation much more important
than this was on the bill, and was adopted.

In the Medical Corps of the Army, with a very few
officers there is one brigadier general and there are six
colonels. There is not a corps, and never was, and
never will be again, with such ranks as belong to the
Medical Corps of the Army, and such an expensive or-
ganization. The office of assistant surgeon general is
conceded by every one who has any knowledge of the
corps to be absolutely without any reason. It is now
vacant, and for the purpose of saving the Government
\$4,000 a year, we thought it proper to let the office not
be filled, and that is all there is of it. It does not turn
anybody out of office. It merely abolishes the office,
and leaves one brigadier general and five colonels in the
Medical Corps.

There is one vacancy. We thought to save \$4,000
where there was no necessity whatever for the office,
as the Secretary of War and everybody else admits who
has any knowledge on the subject. There is no neces-
sity for it whatever. We thought it would be a saving
to the Government and would be in the line of economy
to abolish it, and not appoint anybody to fill the place.

If there is any vicious legislation in that, which is saying something to the Government by not filling an office that there is no reason for in the world, I should like to know it.

I wish to say further that I have a letter in my possession now written, not to me but to a high official, a man whose name was sent to the Senate to fill this office, to be called assistant surgeon general, saying that he is willing to reduce his rank from a colonelcy, which he has had for six years, to a colonelcy to commence now, without any increase of pay. It does not increase him; it does not promote him; it degrades the man, and cuts him off six years by his appointment now. We thought it was a proper thing to abolish the office. There is considerable question in reference to the law governing this case, and whether he can be appointed at all. He wrote a letter to a certain gentleman in this city, asking him to select some Senator who was his friend, and ask that Senator to make an objection to this Army Appropriation bill. I do not know whether that Senator was chosen or not; but he makes the objection. I have got that letter in my possession.

The next amendment of the committee concerning commutation of quarters for officers was adopted. As agreed to it reads as follows:

For commutation of quarters to commissioned officers at places where there are no public quarters.

The amendment making an appropriation of \$1,000 in addition to the amount already provided by law for the officer in command of the Fort Leavenworth Military Prison was agreed to. The next amendment of the committee striking out the House provision regarding abolition of the Pay Corps was agreed to. The amendment substituted for this provision by the committee, which limits the number of Paymasters to forty, was after some discussion ruled out on a point of order as not being germane to an appropriation bill. The following amendment to the paragraph making appropriation for the Subsistence Department was adopted:

And not more than \$100,000 of the money appropriated by this paragraph shall be applied to the payment of civilian employees in the Subsistence Department of the Army; and the clerks employed in said Department shall be graded as to compensation at \$1,600, \$1,400, \$1,200, and \$1,000, respectively, and the number to be employed in each grade shall not exceed those employed in the corresponding grades in the force as now employed.

The proviso of the House concerning the construction of railroads, which was stricken out by the committee, was agreed to as stricken out. The following amendment to the paragraph providing appropriations for the Subsistence Department was agreed to.

And not more than \$1,600,000 of the sums appropriated by this act shall be applied to the payment of civilian employees in the Quartermaster's Department of the Army, including those heretofore paid out of the funds appropriated for regular supplies, incidental expenses, barracks, and quarters, army transportation, clothing, camp and garrison equipage.

The following amendment of the committee inserted in the provision making appropriations for medical and hospital supplies, etc., was adopted:

That civilian employees of the Army stationed at military posts may, under regulations to be made by the Secretary of War, purchase necessary medical supplies, prescribed by a medical officer of the Army, at cost, with 10 per cent. added.

An amendment to follow this, providing that not over \$34,000 of the money appropriated by this paragraph shall be applied to the payment of civilian employees in the Medical Department, was likewise agreed to. The committee amendment for transporting, mounting, proving and testing guns, including small arms constructed at private expense and for which \$15,000 is appropriated, was agreed to. The following amendment is added to the provision making appropriation for the ordnance service:

That not more than \$50,000 of this amount may be expended by the Secretary of War in the manufacture or purchase of a magazine gun selected by the board of officers heretofore appointed by the Secretary of War.

The following amendment inserted by the committee concerning the testing of iron and steel was agreed to:

That the tests of iron and steel and other materials for industrial purposes shall be continued during the next fiscal year, and report thereof shall be made to Congress; And provided further, That in making tests for private citizens the officer in charge may require payment in advance, and may use the funds so received in making such private tests, making full report thereof to the Chief of Ordnance; and the Chief of Ordnance shall give attention to such programme of tests as may be submitted by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the record of such tests shall be furnished said society, to be by them published at their own expense.

The French are contemplating the adoption for their army in Africa of a helmet closely resembling the helmet worn by British soldiers in India, and a *projet de loi* on the subject has been drawn up. Other changes in clothing and for the shelter of sentries from the sun are also embodied in the same *projet de loi*.

THE NAVY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The announcement that the Naval Appropriation bill would come up in the Senate on Thursday morning was hailed with delight by officers in Washington who, having a holiday, by reason of the day being Washington's birthday, were glad to pass the time in the Senate gallery, listening to debate on the bill which so particularly concerned them. Some time before the bill was reached a glance at the galleries would soon show how well the Navy was represented. The moment Mr. Hale arose from his seat and moved to take up the bill the officers immediately ceased conversation with their companions and bent forward, hand behind ear, and waited eagerly for further proceedings. It did not take long for the spectators to discover that any chance for the special legislation hoped for was extremely meagre. Mr. Hale almost in the beginning informed the Senate that he had made up his mind that this Appropriation bill should be unincumbered by any items of special legislation whatever, and if any such provision went into the bill it would not do so until he had a word to say in opposition to it.

The formal reading of the bill was dispensed with and the committee amendments were taken up in their regular order. The first amendment, making the number of rear admirals 10 instead of 11, was adopted. The two next amendments by the committee, striking out the clauses of the House which change the title of masters to lieutenants and that of midshipmen to ensigns, were agreed to without opposition. When the provision was reached prescribing regulations for examining boards (other than prescribed), and regarding promotions to fill vacancies in the line and staff, Mr. Rollins asked Mr. Hale if it was not unfair that the last part of this clause, which was intended to give officers of the staff the same privileges for promotion as those of the line, as was intended by the House, should be stricken out, and requested that if any legislation at all was to be left in the bill this should be above all. Mr. Hale said it was the intention of the Appropriation Committee to make the bill a purely clean appropriation bill, unincumbered by any legislation whatever. All legislation attempted by the House has been struck out, leaving this a clean bill, containing appropriations for maintaining the Navy and other items for the increasing of the Navy, standing apart from the appropriations for the different bureaus. There was nothing in the bill to disturb the status of any officer in the Navy as existing to-day. The clause, as stricken out by the committee, was agreed to. The amendment of the committee making the number of medical directors on the retired list 23 instead of 19, as proposed by the committee, was agreed to, as was also the amendment striking out the three surgeon generals. The amendment of the committee striking out the provision abolishing the grade of commodore was agreed to without a murmur from any one. The next amendment reached excited some debate between Messrs. Voorhees and Hale. This was the provision which gives all officers of the Navy credit for the actual time they may have served as officers or enlisted men in the Regular or Volunteer Army or Navy, and giving them all benefits of such actual service in the same manner as if all said service had been continuous and in the Regular Navy in the lowest grade, having graduated pay held by such officer since last entering the service. Mr. Voorhees, of Indiana, requested Mr. Hale to explain why the Appropriation Committee had stricken out the following words of the proviso: "In the lowest grade having graduated pay held by such officers since last entering the service." Mr. Hale replied that the committee was unable to determine upon the meaning of the words, and they regarded it as a dangerous provision. He said he had written to the Secretary of the Navy and read to the Senate his reply, which was to the effect he (the Secretary) could not fully decide what the real effect of the clause would be, and that it should not be passed in its present shape. Mr. Hale said he had received more letters, and had been requested for more interviews concerning these two lines than any other portion of the bill. He said it was plain that the provision would give these officers a large amount of back pay which the constitution did not intend. Mr. Voorhees offered an amendment, which, after being read, Mr. Hale said he did not think would have the effect desired, and said the matter should be referred to the accounting officers of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Navy, and let them prepare an amendment which would guard against any false payments. After some further discussion between these two Senators the committee's action in striking out the two lines was agreed to. The committee's amendment reappropriating one-half of any balance of unexpended appropriations for the manufacture of breech-loading steel rifled guns, etc., under the head of the Ordnance Bureau, instead of the full amount, as proposed by the House, was agreed to. The committee's action in striking out the provision for the Asa Week's torpedo was also concurred in. Good progress was being made on the bill, every amendment of the Appropriation Committee having been adopted up to the section pertaining to the Construction Bureau. The clause in this section providing that no wooden ships shall be repaired when the estimated cost of such repairs shall exceed 25 per centum of the estimated cost of a new ship of the same description proved an obstacle in the way of the rapid progress that was being made. The provision as it came from the House placed the limit per centum at which a vessel should be sold at 30 per centum. The committee reduced it to 25. Mr. Jones, of Florida, was the first to oppose the provision. He criticised it as an extraordinary provision, one which might be so construed as to destroy every

available wooden vessel in the Navy. Mr. McPherson was also of the same opinion. A long discussion ensued between Senators of both sides, Messrs. Morgan, McPherson and Jones opposing the entire clause, Messrs. Hale, Ingalls and others favoring it. The provision was finally adopted, with an amendment to the amendment of the committee placing the amount at 20 per centum, by a vote of 33 to 17.

The paragraph appropriating \$1,000,000 for the completion of the ironclads, in accordance with the recommendations of the Naval Advisory Board was vigorously discussed. Mr. McPherson reviewed the history of the ironclads and argued that no appropriation should be made at present for the completion of any of them, but that even if money were appropriated for the others the Puritan especially ought to be excepted from the appropriation, because several boards, composed of some of the best officers in the navy, had pronounced her an entire failure.

Mr. Hale said the question whether these great ironclad ships taken possession of by the Government under the legislation of last session should be completed or laid aside ought to be settled at this session of Congress. He read portions of the report of the Advisory Board recommending the completion of the vessels, and also an extract upon this subject from the report of the Secretary of the Navy, and called special attention to the fact that the present Secretary was not in favor of completing the work under "permissive contracts entered into by the Hon. George M. Robeson" as Secretary of the Navy. Those old contracts were dead and nobody was seeking to renew or revive them, and the whole question of finishing these vessels was in the hands of Congress. We had great need of such ships as these were designed to be. Our harbors were open to the assaults of any naval power, and though there was no present reason to apprehend anything of that kind no man could tell what twelve months might bring forth. It was not expected that these vessels would have any great seagoing power, but they would serve to defend our seaboard, and we should never know how useful they might be unless they were completed.

Mr. Ingalls inquired how much money in addition to what had been already expended upon these vessels would be required to complete them.

Mr. Allison replied that the estimates footed up \$5,691,605.

After further discussion Mr. McPherson's amendment, designed to exclude the Puritan, was rejected by a vote of—yeas 16, nays 24. The amendment of the committee making the appropriation "for engines and machinery for the double turreted ironclads in accordance with the recommendations of the Naval Advisory Board," was then agreed to—yeas 27, nays 12.

Mr. Hale proposed a resolution applying the five-minute rule to debates upon appropriation bills during the present session, but it was ruled out of order and was not received. The other amendments of the committee to the bill were agreed to.

Mr. Rollins offered as an additional section his amendment referred to last week, providing for the appointment of a board to scrutinize the active list of the navy and select a certain number of each rank to be retained, the others to be treated as supernumeraries, etc. The point of order was raised that this was new legislation, and, pending the decision, the Senate at a quarter past seven adjourned until Friday at eleven o'clock.

The consideration of the naval bill was resumed Friday. The pending amendment of Mr. Rollins creating supernumerary list was ruled out on point of order. Amendments were adopted as follows: Appropriating \$1,100 for payment of two civilian experts on the Advisory Board. An appropriation was made for the twenty-two 2d lieutenants in the Marine Corps, instead of fourteen. An addition of sixty-four thousand dollars was on motion of Mr. Hale made to the appropriation for bureau of yards and docks for the purpose of keeping open navy yards. One hundred thousand dollars were added to the appropriation for the construction bureau for the completion of the *Mohican* at Mare Island Navy-yard. The last section of the bill inserted by the Appropriation Committee providing for sale of vessels stricken from Naval Register was stricken out. All other amendments offered by members of Naval Committee were ruled out on points of order. Mr. Vance worked hard for the adoption of his amendment, which relieves graduates of the Naval Academy of last year from the operation of the act of August 5, but without success. He reported the bill from committee for that purpose, which he said he would ask unanimous consent to consider before the Senate adjourned. All amendments made in Committee of Whole were agreed to by Senate proper, and bill passed early in the day.

In the course of the debate Mr. McPherson (Dem., N. J.) alluded to the presence of the Secretary of the Navy in the Senate Chamber the other day, in conversation with Mr. Anthony, and went on to make an attack upon the Secretary as one who was "at home in the lobby." He had great respect for the President, who had so far given the country an administration as worthy of approval as any preceding one, but he feared that when this appropriation bill should have become a law (as it certainly would, because the Secretary of the had so ordered), even the President would become convinced that mistakes were possible. The President, heading the list of his advisers with character and ability the purest and best, but, even before reaching the end of the list, had descended by one gigantic stride to the lobby, with all that that implied.

Mr. Anthony said he had offered his amendment by the instruction of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and not at the request of the Secretary of the Navy. The Secretary of the Navy had a right to be on the floor of the Senate under the rules, and his presence called for no such comment as that made by Mr. McPherson.

Mr. Rollins (Rep. N. H.) said he had heard Mr.

McPherson's remarks with great surprise. That Senator's criticism upon the Secretary was unjust and ungenerous in the extreme, and he (Mr. Rollins) hoped it would not be repeated.

THE NAVAL OBSERVATORY.

A strong and concerted effort is making to take the management of the Naval Observatory from line officers of the Navy. A bill has been introduced into Congress which provides that "hereafter the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory shall be a professional astronomer of established reputation," and petitions from colleges in favor of its passage have been industriously obtained and forwarded to Congress, and we understand the House Committee on Naval Affairs will report it favorably. The complaint is that the line officers of the Navy try to overshadow the professional astronomers in the Observatory, and interfere with their work, to the detriment of the efficiency of the institution and its scientific reputation. "So palpable is the effort to drive all civilians out of the Observatory," says a Washington despatch to the *Boston Advertiser*, "that the faculties of all the leading colleges and universities in the country have united in sending up petitions that the Observatory be put in charge of an astronomer." And the bill has been so worded as to exclude from the place the line officers of the Navy who have been accustomed to hold the office of Superintendent. "The astronomers of the country," says the *Advertiser's* despatch, "look with dismay upon the revolution which is going on in the Naval Observatory." Commander Sampson, the aide to Vice-Admiral Rowan, the present Superintendent, however, explicitly denies that the naval officers have any such purpose as that attributed to them, or have given reason for the charges against them for undue interference with the professors, upon which the petitions for the proposed change are based. He also shows that the phraseology of the bill introduced into Congress, and its failure to provide for compensation to the Superintendent, would limit the choice of the Superintendent to five men—the Professors of Mathematics at the Observatory and Prof. Newcomb, Superintendent of the Nautical Almanac, who are the only officers who consider themselves astronomers. No civilian astronomer would be eligible for the place, as the college petitioners seem to suppose. "Such a rule," Commander Sampson justly remarks, "might secure a good man to-day, but a year hence the senior might be a very unfit person."

He also asks that it be not forgotten "that naval officers founded this Naval Observatory, the first organized in the country; that a naval man has ever since presided over it, and that naval officers have done a good share of the work it has reported. Although," he adds, "many scientists seem to consider that a man is handicapped for all scientific work by the mere fact of being a naval officer, the service can point to many of its members who have achieved distinction in science. The training of the Naval Academy annually develops the scientific tastes of some of her graduates, and determines the particular branch of their profession to which their energies shall ever after be devoted. When from among such students a selection is made for the work of the Naval Observatory men are obtained with excellent preparation and good results may fairly be expected."

On the other side it is claimed that though it was proper to make a line officer Superintendent in former days, when the Observatory was connected with the Hydrographic Office, and its chief object was the rating of chronometers, a professional astronomer is now necessary, it having become a great scientific institution.

We are in receipt of a printed slip containing a copy of the address delivered by Gen. William Wallace Burns, U. S. Army, before the National Agricultural Convention, Chicago, December 13, 1882, on the most important and timely subject of the preservation of moisture for seasonable rainfall. "Let your legislators provide," said Gen. Burns, in concluding his address, "and your executives see to it, that great nurseries for useful forest trees be established in warm, secluded valleys near the great water courses at the mountains, and that the scions are transplanted yearly in numbers sufficient to keep the waters shaded, to prevent excessive evaporation during summer heat. Let agriculture be protected as well as manufacture. Manufacture makes comforts. Agriculture gives life. This is the formulation of the principle, the subject of this discourse."

THURSDAY of this week was the 151st anniversary of the birthday of General Washington. The day was appropriately observed at all our military posts and stations. The general public seemed also to appreciate the day in its patriotic aspect as well as that of a general holiday, and did honor to the memory of the man

whose forte it was, according to Artemus Ward, "not to resemble any public man of the present day to any alarming extent." In Washington both Houses of Congress were in session, but all the Executive Departments, District offices and banks were closed, and the courts adjourned over. The Oldest Inhabitants' Association held a meeting in the morning, at which Washington's Farewell Address was read, and an oration was delivered. A reception was given to the Washington Monument Society by Horatio King in the afternoon, and at 8 o'clock the District militia were paraded and reviewed by the President and Gen. Sherman.

SEVERAL selections of Army officers as professors of tactics at colleges will soon be ordered, as the three years' tours of the following officers expire July 1st next: Captain J. W. MacMurray, 1st Artillery, Union College, Schenectady, N. Y.; Captain J. B. Burbank, 3d Artillery, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Lieutenant G. A. Thurston, 3d Artillery, Iowa State University; Lieutenant R. M. Rogers, 2d Artillery, University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn.; Lieutenant G. O. Webster, 4th Infantry, Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa.; Lieutenant George S. Hoyle, 1st Cavalry, North Georgia College, Dahlonega; Lieutenant H. T. Reed, 1st Infantry, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; Lieutenant E. B. Bolton, 23d Infantry, College of Mississippi, Starkville; Lieutenant W. S. Paten, 18th Infantry, Riverview Academy, Poughkeepsie, and Lieutenant W. T. Wood, 18th Infantry, Illinois Industrial University, Champaign.

AN investigation into the management of the Signal Corps is now thought to be inevitable. Whether or not it will be instituted by a Congressional Committee or by a Court of Inquiry is yet to be determined. As will be seen by his letter to Gen. Hazen, published elsewhere, Secretary Lincoln has decided to request the President to appoint a Court of Inquiry, but will not act until Congress adjourns, for the reason that he thinks the Senate may take it upon itself to make the investigation. This is what General Hazen wants, and it is thought that he will prevail upon some of his senatorial friends to offer a resolution for that purpose, hoping that a Congressional Committee, after an investigation, would decide that the best thing for the service would be to place it upon a permanent basis, as proposed by the bill now on the two calendars of Congress.

THE Navy Department is to put a vessel of war at the disposal of the National Academy of Sciences to take a party to the South Pacific for the observation of the solar eclipse. Either the *Hartford* or the *Pensacola* is to be at Callao ready to receive the party and carry them to Caroline Islands, lat. 9 deg. 54 min. south, long. 180 deg. 8 min. west; or to Flint Island, lat. 11 deg. 26 min. south, long. 151 deg. 48 min. west, as may be determined best. The eclipse takes place May 6, and the vessel expects to sail from Callao as soon as possible after the arrival of the party who leave New York March 1, and should reach Callao about the 21st. After the observations are over the vessel will return to Honolulu and there land the party, and resume her regular cruising.

GEN. WESLEY MERRITT's review of the "Shenandoah Valley in 1864," which we published last week, was of great interest and value, not merely as a criticism of the volume, but also as a contribution to our stock of material for a history of the war, furnished by a prominent actor in the operations described by Mr. Pond. For that reason, and for others, we published it with his name and title, instead of signing it as he did with his initials simply, knowing that General Merritt was not unwilling to be recognized as its author. We hope that other officers who were familiar with the campaigns of the Shenandoah treated of in the volume will favor us with criticisms of it.

THE success of Company B, 21st U. S. Infantry, commanded by Captain Stephen P. Jocelyn, in securing the "Nevada Trophy," as announced last week in G. O. 8, from the headquarters of the Army, will be most gratifying to that arm of the service in general, and to Colonel Morrow's regiment in particular. The score of percentage of the company is an excellent one, and gives evidence of careful work by Capt. Jocelyn, his officers and men. Upham's Troop G, 1st Cavalry, comes second; Company C, of the Engineer Battalion, third; Battery K, 3d U. S. Artillery, Captain Lewis Smith, the present holder of the trophy, fourth; Leonard's Company K, 9th Infantry, fifth; and Coolidge's Company A, 7th Infantry, sixth. The Departments of the East, Missouri, Texas and Arizona had apparently no competitors, which General Sherman re-

grets, and expresses a hope of better luck next year. It is extremely creditable to Capt. Lewis Smith and his men that they came near being their own successors in the possession of the trophy, for the conditions under which it was shot for were by no means so favorable in 1883 as they were in 1881. In 1881 the battery was at Plattsburg Barracks, settled, and with good ranges. In 1882 it was at a more unfavorable station, or rather stations—Fort Barrancas and Mount Vernon Barracks. Having a special interest in this particular competition, we are glad to see that the interest in it is maintained, and likely to be strengthened in the future.

GENERAL AUGUR considerably omits from his Circular No. 1, which we publish this week, the name of the officer who finds the exercise of one of his most essential military duties so "undignified" and "distasteful to him" that he is constrained to protest against the order which compels its performance. His hardships do not appear to have excited much sympathy either at Department or Army Headquarters, and a little wholesome physic for the cure of his complaint is administered in the endorsements added to his application by General Augur and General Sherman. These endorsements are conceived in a very kindly spirit, and may possibly be of service to others as well as to the special subject of their application.

EVERY one familiar with the Indians in the vicinity of our northwestern Indian settlements on the Pacific is aware that they hold "Boston men," as they call the Americans, in much less esteem than "King George's men," with whom they also have dealings. This is because they have learned by experience that the English are not to be trifled with, and have no newspaper critics to complain of, or Congressional Committees to reverse, such action as they may find necessary, to maintain authority over the Indians. Commander Merriman is learning how insecure is the position of an officer undertaking to exercise the authority absolutely essential to the security of our citizens dwelling among the Indians of Alaska. Congress has left that territory without government, and put upon our Naval officers in those waters the duty of maintaining order, and yet it is not certain that it will sustain them in the absolutely necessary exercise of authority. In answer to criticism upon his recent order, Capt. Merriman has written a letter to the *New York Tribune*, in which he says:

As a punishment for stealing property to the amount of several thousand dollars, for stopping the fishing by force, and for violently taking the law into their own hands, I demanded double the amount they claimed, or four hundred blankets, and told them if the demand was not complied with, I would burn their town. I gave them until the next day. They at first said they would. They went to their village, and Ka-chuck-tee, the richest chief of the tribe—friendly, but at the same time absent-minded, as they broke open his house, stole 166 blankets which he had stored there, and sent me 80 of them, hauled up their large canoes, took their winter provisions, blankets and bedding back into the woods, and sent me word they would not pay the fine, but to come and and they would defend the town. I destroyed what canoes were in the vicinity of the vessel, and burned their town, purposely sparing enough to house them for the winter, and their large canoes. No "looting" was done, no provisions were burned, and no Indians were killed, as some accounts have it. Ka-chuck-tee says no blankets were burned, but that his were stolen, and he grimly added: "I will get my fur coat and every blanket back from 'Saginaw Jake'" (the culprit thief). The Indians think the houses spared were saved by accident, and that my purpose was to destroy all their property and provisions. I wanted them to think so. I desired to teach them a lesson, and I succeeded. Had I not done so, they would have killed more or less white people, and destroyed a trading post and fishing station and property of much value. I am of the opinion that the measure was a necessary one, and will be productive of much good, and I may add that the property holders and missionaries here agree with me. I believe the lesson will last the Indians for a generation, although they rebuild their houses in a month.

My aim in this letter, however, is not to attempt to guide public opinion but simply to supply you with the facts. The daughter (Kinze) of the man who was killed described the whole plot to me, the motive for it, and the manner in which they were to kill the three men. They consider one hundred blankets the equivalent for the death of one of their number. If they could have had the blood of one white man, then one hundred blankets would have answered. The extra hundred was to satisfy them for the death of an Indian killed some time before while felling timber for a wharf. They believed in "a life for a life," or one hundred blankets for a life, will yet cause trouble unless put down. They should be compensated for a death occurring by accident, as in this case, and probably would have been but for their hasty action. This blanket business does not consist, as might appear, in dragging the cover off an Indian's bed. The blanket is the Indian dollar. The standard is a single blanket of the Hudson Bay type, worth \$1. Ka-chuck-tee, mentioned above, is worth 11,000 blankets. Ken-ai-koo, another chief, 8,000.

The Indians of Southeastern Alaska are a most interesting race, alike far removed from the Indian of the plains and the Esquimaux. Revengeful and cruel in war, they are, when well treated, and not under the influence of liquor, hospitable, brave, industrious, intelligent, skilful, not honest, but easily led for good. They do not want the white man or their fathers' land at the same time they do not desire to molest him. If he kills one of the tribe, either purposely or by accident, they want to kill a white man, or be paid a hundred blankets. They claim the game and the land of the country, and want to keep them. If all kinds of malt liquor, as well as distilled, were interdicted, and non-secular schools for the education of the Indian children, supported by the Government, established, I predict that the Alaskan Indian would be a source of revenue to the Government, for he is at all times willing to give an honest day's work for reasonable pay, an attribute unpossessed by any other tribe within my knowledge. The United States Government should provide some kind of law to protect the miner and Indian in this Territory, or abandon it. There is also prohibiting the sale of distilled liquors, but not beer. The rum-sellers, taking advantage of this, mix bay rum, Florida water, etc., into the beer, and sell the mixture to Indians, and then trouble arises. The rum-sellers themselves, in such cases, yell the most lustily for help. All the fault lies entirely at their doors. The winters here are far from rigorous.

The average of our thermometer from October 25 to date is 40 deg. 21 min. Fahr. for meridian, and 39 deg. 55 min. Fahr. for midnight. Very truly yours,
E. C. MERRIMAN, Commander U. S. Navy.
U. S. S. Adams, Sitka, Dec. 29, 1882.

The German Admiralty have supplied the Hotchkiss machine gun to their vessels in the following proportion: Ironclads and large corvettes, six guns each; sloops and gun vessels, four each; and gunboats, one to four each, according to size and class. The arm adopted by the German government is the 37 millimetre revolving cannon, both the German Admiralty and War Office preferring shell to the small solid projectiles in use in the British navy. The Hotchkiss new six-pounder single barrel gun is to be experimented with in England next month.

An unsuccessful attempt was made in the House, February 14, to take up, out of order, and pass the bill relieving the real estate of the late Carille Patterson, in Washington, of land taxes. Mr. Kasson, in explaining the report by the committee in its favor, said:

Carille P. Patterson is one of those men who have formed, to a great extent, the honor of our country in the progress of science in the world; men who are not seen in the lobbies of this House; men who are not seen begging favors of the Government; men who, by night and day, are engaged in the pursuit of the highest science of the country; who devote their lives to it, and who trust to the honors that may be given them by posterity as their reward. No man, not even Professor Henry, surpassed Carille P. Patterson in this respect. He was made chairman of the commission to organize the revenue marine service. In that capacity he saved a million and a half of money by the recommendations he made, in connection with Professor Henry, who was with him in that service. He was chairman of the commission to organize the Life-Saving Service. He was engaged in other like duties. And for all this service he never received a cent. And now, as in the case of Professor Henry, following that precedent, your committee have come to the House with a report of the distinguished services he has rendered. He was a man who died from overwork night and day. Let me speak as my heart dictates. I was his friend, and knew him intimately. I have sat with him by night when he discoursed to me of the great purposes he had in view of the prosecution of this great work of our Coast Survey. He declared, a few nights before his death, that he hoped by the generous aid of Congress to finish this great work in six or eight years, I forgot which, and make it the greatest scientific memorial that any nation in the world had put upon the records of science. Night and day he was devoted to it. He died poor; he died penniless; he left his family destitute, if their property shall remain burdened by this taxation; his children poor, his widow poor. And now your committee has asked you to remit these taxes, not only because they were unjustly imposed, but as an honorable testimonial of your appreciation of distinguished devotion to the country, of distinguished services to science, of great economies effected in our public expenditures by the great work of this great man.

Nor long ago we printed without comment an extract of a letter of a Mr. Louis Scade, in which he put himself forward as a defender of the German enlisted men of the Army, who, he told Congress and the country, were dealt with cruelly and subjected to degrading and intolerable punishments. The publication in the JOURNAL of that extract has served the purpose we had in view in making it. From all parts of the Army, from officers and enlisted men, and especially from privates of German birth, we have received the most specific and most indignant denials of Mr. Scade's statements. The men resent his charges as an insult to them, and denounce him as an officious fellow who is trying to manufacture reputation for himself as a philanthropist, and gain notability as a demagogue by pretending to advocate their cause.

There are abuses and violations of law in our Army, doubtless, as there are in every service, but the remedy for these abuses is provided by the Regulations. If enlisted men would inform themselves of their rights and their duties under the Regulations they would better understand their relations to the service, and correspondingly improve their condition, without the help of Mr. Scade. An enlisted man who understands his rights, and in a manly and soldierly spirit calls official attention to any infringement of them, can be assured that he will secure justice. The grumblers and growlers, who neither appreciate their obligations nor understand their rights, will continue to grumble and growl in spite of anything that may be done for them. The civil law prescribes a definite method of securing redress for wrongs, and those who are not intelligent enough to avail themselves of it must expect to suffer. It is so in military administration, and the best disposed officer is powerless to redress wrongs that are not brought to his attention in the proper order of official routine.

An amendment added to the Civil Appropriation bill in the House provides "that in addition to the persons now declared by law to be entitled to admission to the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, any person who served during the War of the Rebellion in the Army or in the Navy of the United States, and was honorably discharged therefrom, who is not otherwise provided for by law, and who is incapacitated by reason of wounds incurred in the line of duty or disease contracted during his said service from earning his own support, may be admitted to said home in the same manner and under the same conditions as volunteer soldiers are now admitted. And section 2 of the act entitled 'An act making ap-

propriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, and for deficiencies, and for other purposes,' approved February 26, 1881, is hereby repealed."

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The prophecies as to who is to succeed General Ingalls as Quartermaster General of the Army, have somewhat abated of late, although they crop up occasionally in out of the way places. It may not be improper to remark on this head, that General S. B. Holabird, U. S. A., is the senior of the Quartermaster's Department, next to General Ingalls, and that in point of service and qualifications he is eminently fitted for the higher position.

The House Committee on Military Affairs on Tuesday agreed to the Senate bill, recently referred to the committee from the Speaker's table, prescribing regulations for the Soldier's Home, at Washington, D. C. The Board of Commissioners of the Home have urged the members of the committee to press for passage, and it is believed that this will be one of the few bills of interest to the Army or Navy that will go through this session. As has been previously stated, the present commissioners will take no action regarding the appointment of a deputy to succeed Cogswell until Congress has adjourned or the bill has been passed.

The large number of bills donating condemned cannon, etc., to Grand Army posts and other organizations for monumental purposes which have passed the House, will all remain in the Senate Military Committee without action or will be reported adversely. This committee gave notice some time ago that they would not recommend the passage of any more bills of this character, but the House continues to pass them as they are reached on the calendar without heed to the warning of the Senate committee. The committee in declining to grant the donation of these cannon do so in lieu of the fact that we have no more to dispose of in this way. According to the last report of the Chief of Ordnance on this matter the supply of obsolete cannon at the arsenals has already been exhausted, and in order to furnish the organizations with the number already granted about seventy will have to be taken from the forts, leaving 458 at sea coast forts, which are not conveniently accessible to the ordinary lines of transportation, and besides, it is believed these guns are too heavy and unwieldy for ornamentation of cemeteries. Most of these bills also call for condemned cast-iron cannon balls. The Chief of Ordnance, in reply to a recent resolution of the Senate for the number of all cannon balls of this character, furnishes the following list of the number on hand:

4-pounder	69
26-pounder	385
4-pounder	23,313
2-pounder	12,370
2-pounder	1,006
Total	37,143

These condemned and obsolete cannon balls have been and can be advantageously used in new manufactures in the workshops of the Ordnance Department instead of pig iron, which has to be purchased to supply the castings required. The act of March 3, 1881, authorizes the exchange of such condemned and obsolete cannon balls for new projectiles, and this department has made such exchanges and reported the fact to Congress.

Secretary Chandler was on the floor of the Senate chamber on Wednesday, in earnest conversation with Senator Rollins, the topic under discussion probably being that little matter of reduction in the Navy, as proposed by the Rollins amendment. The Secretary and the Senator were so completely absorbed in their discussion as to be oblivious of the fact that their conversation was annoying the Senators, who were engaged in debate on the Army bill. Senator Logan, however, who was informing the Senate as to his views regarding the Signal Corps, suddenly interrupted the *tele-tele* by saying: "Mr. President, when the Secretary and Senator get through, I will go on." The conversation immediately closed, and further conversation between the two was transferred to the cloak room.

The sub-committee of the House appointed to investigate the management of the Hampton Soldiers' Home has decided that it will have no time to visit the Home and hear testimony at the capitol at this session of Congress. As the House is not a continuing body, after the 4th of March the sub-committee could not be authorized to sit during the recess, and a new committee will have to be appointed by the next Congress.

Paymaster John R. Carmody, U. S. N., has been elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Navy Mutual Aid Association, vice Pay Inspector F. C. Cosby.

Mr. Hiscock endeavored, during the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill discussion in the House, on Tuesday, to introduce an amendment providing for the sale of the arsenals at Allegheny, Pa.; Augusta, Ga.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Kenneboc, Me.; Watertown, Mass., and Watervliet, N. Y. After some debate it was ruled out of order as changing existing laws and not germane to the bill. The bill, as adopted by the House, appropriates \$50,000 for buildings at Fort Colville, W. T.; \$52,000 for Fort Huachuca, and \$60,000 for Fort Grant, Ariz. T.; \$75,000 at Atlanta, Ga.; \$12,000 at Fort Douglas, U. T., and \$85,000 for the establishment of reserve posts at San Antonio and Fort Bliss, Texas. An amendment to this section was adopted transferring to the control of the Secretary of the Interior, to be sold at public auction, lands reserved for military purposes, which, in the

opinion of the President, are no longer needed for that purpose.

A bill granting an increase of pension to Mrs. George W. Patten, 2,495, was introduced into the Senate, February 20, by Mr. Miller of Cal. (by request).

In the House during the debate on the Legislative, etc., bill, Mr. Whitthorne said: "Mr. Chairman, I suppose I am perhaps the only gentleman on this floor whose fortune it has been to be a clerk in one of the Departments of this Government. I therefore speak with some knowledge of the labor and the duties performed by these clerks; and I take pleasure in saying, after a somewhat varied experience in different avenues of labor and business, that I have never known a more gentlemanly, a more intelligent, a more courteous, or a more competent body of citizens than the employees in the Departments at Washington to-day. As a body they do their duties promptly, faithfully, courteously. They do not stickle about hours, but upon the requirements of the heads of bureaus work cheerfully day and night in the discharge of the public business." In spite of this and other similar statements the House adopted this as an additional section of the bill:

"Sec. 4. That hereafter it shall be the duty of the heads of the several Executive Departments, in the interest of the public service, to require of all clerks and other employees of whatever grade or class in their Departments such hours of labor as may be deemed necessary for the proper dispatch of the public business, the same, however, not to be less than from the hour of 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. each day, except Sundays and days declared public holidays by law or executive order, from the 1st day of October to the 1st day of April, and from the hour of 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. from the 1st day of April to the 1st day of October in each year. And all absence from the Departments on the part of said clerks or other employees in excess of such leave of absence as may be granted by the heads thereof, which shall not exceed thirty days in any one year except in case of sickness, shall be without pay."

The appropriations for salaries of the Assistant Secretaries of War and of the Navy were left out of the bill and the following proviso added to it: "That the provisions of the act entitled 'An act making appropriations for the legislative and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883,' approved August 5, 1882, which authorized the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of War and an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, be, and the same are hereby, repealed." There was a division of opinion between the two Secretaries as to whether they needed such an assistant. Mr. Chandler insisted that he did, and that he had not appointed one only because he could not make up his mind as to the proper man. Mr. Lincoln was equally sure that he did not need an Assistant Secretary.

In the Senate Mr. Hawley endeavored on Wednesday to secure the passage of a bill authorizing Major Wm. Ludlow, U. S. A., to accept a civil position, but Mr. Edmunds objecting to its being considered out of its order, it went over. Mr. Hawley said: "The city of Philadelphia is under the absolute necessity of beginning some great improvements in its water works. Major Ludlow has been for six years on duty around the Delaware River and all about there, in charge of the river and harbor improvements. Philadelphia is unable to find elsewhere the proper man. With extraordinary unanimity on the part of both political parties they have selected Major Ludlow. He is needed immediately. They wish to put him in charge of the new system of works. This resolution will grant him a two years' leave of absence, but it is probable, if he proves acceptable, that he will resign from the Army before that time. It is without pay. His pay ceases the moment he accepts the position. He would be entitled now, if he had the benefits of the leaves of absence he has saved, to some fourteen months' absence. The Secretary of War approves it in a letter which states the facts clearly. The councils of Philadelphia ask it; the citizens ask it; here is a petition to Congress asking it which embraces the strongest names possibly of all parties in that city. It is no injury to the public service. It is particularly needed, and it will be a great benefit to that city."

Judge Advocate Asa Bird Gardner, U. S. A., visited the War Department at Washington the latter part of the week on special official business.

Rumors having obtained in Cincinnati that on account of the floods the troops at Newport Barracks, Ky., had abandoned the post, Captain C. A. Woodruff, 2d Artillery, commanding it, wrote recently to the *Commercial Gazette* denying the statement, and saying: "I do not propose to abandon this post as long as there remains Government property to protect. The only officers who have left are some of the staff of the Department of the South, whose quarters, the new frame buildings, have five or six feet of water on the first (parlor) floor, and having no responsibility as regards the troops and property, they wisely moved with their families to places of safety and comfort. We continue to perform guard duty daily, the sergeant of the guard and the sentinels patrolling the post in boats." Our own recent correspondence from Newport Barracks fully sustains this, and shows that the public interests there have been fully maintained by General Hunt, the Department commander, and his officers, and by Captain Woodruff, the post commander, and his officers and men, and good order and discipline preserved under the most distressing circumstances. The personal losses of those quartered at Newport Barracks will, we are afraid, be found to be equal to, if not greater, than those sustained by the Government.

We have the authority of Miss Susie D. Price, of St. Louis, for positively contradicting the report of her engagement to Lieut. J. R. Richards, Jr., 4th Cavalry.

THE "JEANNETTE" INQUIRY.

The Secretary of the Navy has transmitted to Congress the report of the Court of Inquiry into the loss of the *Jeannette* which was appointed Sept. 29, 1882. They give the following as the facts established by the evidence adduced:

First—As to "the condition of the vessel on her departure." The *Jeannette* was originally Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Fundador*, and was purchased from the British Government in April, 1875, by Sir Allen W. Young, who made two voyages in her to the Arctic regions, and who finally sold her to the proprietor of the *Herald* in 1877. By an act of Congress approved Feb. 27, 1879, she was accepted, under certain conditions, by the United States Government for the purpose of making further explorations in the Arctic regions, and although the weight of evidence shows that she was not specially adapted, in strength or model, for that kind of navigation the fact that an experienced Arctic explorer had voluntarily made two cruises in her to the Arctic seas, sustains the judgment and care shown in her selection when last purchased. The vessel was strengthened as much as practicable at the Navy Yard, Mare Island, California, and such other additions and improvements were made as were recommended by her commanding officer, and the condition of the *Jeannette* on her departure from the port of San Francisco was good and satisfactory to her officers and crew, except that she was unavoidably deeply loaded, a defect which corrected itself by the consumption of coal, provisions, and stores.

MANAGEMENT OF THE EXPEDITION.

Second—As to "her management up to the time of her loss." The lateness of the season when the *Jeannette* sailed from San Francisco, her want of speed, and the delay occasioned by her search along the Siberian coast, under orders from the Navy Department, for the Swedish exploring steamer *Vega*, placed the commander at a great disadvantage in his meeting with the pack ice early in September in the vicinity of Herald Island. Either he had to return to some port to the southward and pass the winter there in idleness, thus sacrificing all chance of pushing his researches to the northward until the following summer, or else he must endeavor to force the vessel through to Wrangel Land, then erroneously supposed to be a large continent, to winter there and prosecute his explorations by sledges. The chances of accomplishing this latter alternative were sufficiently good at the time to justify him in choosing it, and, indeed, had he done otherwise he might fairly have been thought wanting in the high qualities necessary for an explorer. This attempt, unfortunately resulted in the vessel's becoming beset in the ice pack within less than two months after her departure from San Francisco, from which she was not released until her destruction, more than twenty-one months later. During these weary months of forced inaction the vessel and her people were times threatened with great dangers. Especially was her destruction imminent on Jan. 19, 1880, when she sprang a leak from ice pressure, and for months after that day she was kept afloat only by skillful devices and arduous labor.

It may be here mentioned that throughout the expedition every opportunity was improved for gaining scientific information; meteorological and astronomical observations, temperature and density of sea water, and soundings were taken and preserved; studies of the character and action of the ice were noted, specimens of the bottom and of great fauna and flora as could be procured were examined. Three islands were discovered, two of which were visited, explored and taken possession of in the name of the United States.

The arrangements to abandon the ship at a moment's warning and to guard against fire were all that could be desired, and the evidence shows that in the management of the *Jeannette* up to the time of her destruction Lieut. Comdr. George W. De Long, by his foresight and prudence, provided measures to meet emergencies and enforced wise regulations to maintain discipline, to preserve health and to encourage cheerfulness among those under his command; and the physical condition of the people was good, with the exception of a few cases of lead poisoning, the result of eating canned provisions. The fact of the ship's having passed a second winter in the ice without any appearance of decay on board sufficiently attests the excellence of the sanitary arrangements adopted, and reflects great credit upon her medical officer, Passed Asst. Surgeon James M. Ambler, who throughout the expedition was indefatigable in the performance of his duties.

THE LOSS OF THE VESSEL.

Third—As to "the circumstances of the loss in the Arctic Seas of the exploring steamer *Jeannette*." The *Jeannette* was sunk on June 13, 1881, from being crushed by the ice in latitude 77 deg. 13 min. north, longitude 155 deg. 50 min. east, after drifting uncontrollably in the pack ice since Sept. 6, 1879. Any vessel in like position, no matter what her model might have been, or however strongly constructed and subjected to the same pressure, as those incurred by the *Jeannette*, would have been annihilated. She was abandoned in a cool and orderly manner on the evening of June 12, and foundered about 4 A. M. the day following; and the court attaches no blame to any officer or man for her loss.

Fourth—As to "the provisions made and plans adopted for the several boats' crews upon their leaving the wreck."

The contingency of the loss of the vessel had been foreseen and provided for, and when the emergency arose everything was prepared to meet it. The officers and men were divided into three parties and assigned to the boats best fitted for the anticipated work. Boat sleds and provisions had been provided, and more boats, clothing, provisions and stores were removed from the vessel than could be transported on the retreat. The party being thus thrown upon the ice, five days were passed in arranging for the long journey to the land, and the provisions made and plans adopted for the several boats' crews upon leaving the wreck were judicious, as it is shown that ninety days after the destruction of the *Jeannette* the officers and men were in fair condition, notwithstanding their terrible journey.

Fifth—As to "the efforts made by the various officers to insure the safety of the parties under their immediate charge and for the relief of the other parties."

[Under this head they give in some detail a description of these efforts, with which our readers have already been made acquainted, and say:]

Considering, then, the condition of the survivors, the unfavorable season, the limited knowledge of the country, the want of facilities for prosecuting the search and the great difficulty of communicating with the natives, everything possible was done for the relief of the parties.

Sixth—As to "the general conduct and merits of each and all the officers and men of the expedition." There is conclusive evidence that, aside from trivial difficulties, such as occur on shipboard, even under the most favorable circumstances, and which had no influence in bringing about the disaster of the expedition, and no pernicious effect upon its general conduct, every officer and man so conducted himself that the Court finds no occasion to impute censure to any member of the party.

In view, then, of the long and dreary monotony of the cruise, the labors and privations encountered, the disappointment consequent upon a want of important results and the uncertainty of their fate (and apart from a natural desire to tread lightly on the graves of the dead), the general conduct of the personnel of the expedition seems to have been a marvel of cheerfulness, good fellowship and mutual forbearance; while the constancy and endurance with which they met the hardships and dangers that beset them entitles them to great praise.

Besides the mention already made, however, special commendation is due to Lieut. Commander De Long for the high qualities displayed by him in the conduct of the expedition; to Chief Engineer Melville, for the zeal, energy and professional aptitude, which elicited high encomiums from his commander, and for his subsequent efforts on the Lena Delta; and to Seamen Niderman and Sweetman, for services which induced their commander to recommend them for medals of honor.

Finally, it should be stated that there are several survivors of the *Jeannette* who have not yet returned from Siberia, and whose testimony might or might not modify the conclusions set forth in this report.

WILLIAM G. TEMPLE,
Commodore U. S. N. and President.
SAMUEL C. LEMLY, Master U. S. N. and Judge Advocate.

GEN. HAZEN AND THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The following correspondence has passed between Gen. Hazen and the Secretary of War:

I.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1883.

To the Honorable the Secretary of War:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 15th inst., in reply to mine of the 14th asking that the President of the Senate be requested, by resolution, to appoint a committee of its members to thoroughly investigate the affairs of this bureau. I made my request that the Secretary ask for a Senate resolution providing for an investigation of certain allegations that have been made against my administration of the Signal Service because I want justice done me and my bureau. If I thought that the desired end could be obtained by a court of inquiry, so well as it can be by a committee of the Senate, I should ask for that. I ask for a committee of the Senate instead of a committee of the House of Representatives because the House of Representatives expires on the 4th of March, and will not have time to make the proposed investigation. It may be, as the Secretary suggests, that the Senate cannot investigate allegations made in the other House of Congress, but there can be no doubt of the power of the Senate to investigate, generally, a bureau concerning which it proposes to legislate. It is respectfully suggested that a court of inquiry cannot report concerning legislation. As the Secretary knows, a bill is on the calendar of the Senate providing for an organization for this service. In my opinion a full investigation and fair discussion of the merits of the service, will result in its strengthening and improvement, before the Senate which, if I read his annual report correctly, embodies the views of the Secretary. It provides for the transfer of the bureau to the Interior Department. Both the Secretary and myself are charged by law with the care of the Signal Service, and with its meteorological work. I believe that the service ought to continue to do the weather work, and I am willing and anxious that Congress shall examine the question to the bottom. There is nothing here that I want to conceal; there is nothing, I believe, that any officer of the service desires to hide. Charges have been made to the country through the public press against a bureau of the War Department, and I desire, and I assume that the Secretary also desires, that the country shall know the whole truth. A court of inquiry cannot so well inform the country, and more than that, such a court affects public opinion against one who is under charges. I know that I have done nothing wrong in aid of the legislation which I think proper, but I know also that much wrong has been done to me and to the service by enemies in opposition to that proposed legislation. It has seemed to me that fair treatment demands that I shall have a Congressional investigation; that the question of the retention or non retention of the Weather Bureau in the War Department shall be met squarely, and that the bureau be driven out because it ought to be, and not pushed out by indirection. I look to the Secretary of War for his support in my desire. I feel sure that he is willing to do my bureau simple justice, and that he, too, desires that its status shall be fairly considered. It may be that my request for this investigation, made as it was through the Secretary, was without precedent, but it was at least courteous. I desire to say that I informed the Associated Press of the fact of my application to the Secretary because I supposed, as a matter of course, that there would be no objection to my asking an inquiry into the administration of my bureau by a body having its affairs under consideration. I again renew my request that the Senate be asked to appoint a committee to investigate the administration of this bureau and its proper status in the public service; and that any committee that may be appointed have power to send for persons and papers. In view of the publication of the two letters preceding this—one to the Secretary from me dated Feb. 14, 1883, and another from the Secretary to me dated Feb. 15, 1883—I respectfully ask that this letter be given to the press. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. B. HAZEN, Brigadier and Brevet Major-General,
Chief Signal Officer, United States Army.

II.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1883.

Gen. W. B. Hazen, Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter yesterday, in which you renew your request for the appointment of a committee by the Senate to investigate the administration of the Signal Bureau and its proper status in the public service. I have read your letter with care, but do not find in it sufficient reasons for disregarding the considerations upon which I felt compelled to disapprove your original application. Whatever may be the importance of an investigation by the Senate, for the purpose of ascertaining the proper status of your bureau in the public service, with reference to the propriety of the passage of one or another of the bills now pending, it seems to me clear that it is the province of the last House of Congress to determine, without suggestion from this Department, what measures if any it will take to obtain information in addition to that already possessed by it on which to base its action, and that it would be an unprecedented and improper step for this Department to request the Senate to obtain such information through the extraordinary instrumentality of a committee of investigation. The action of Congress on the bills mentioned will probably be guided by general information and considerations of general policy, on which charges relating to the personal or official conduct of officers now engaged in carrying on the work of the weather service have no bearing. The charges to which you called my attention in your letter of February 14, were the stated cause of that letter being written, and constituted, as I understood, the subject matter which it was especially desired should be investigated. Their gravity was expressed by yourself with great emphasis. They involved not so much the status of the Signal Bureau in the public service as the official fidelity of some of its officers. I would certainly wish no injustice done to the service or to any of its officers, and I regret to observe the expression of your feeling that justice might not be done by a court of inquiry. It has appeared to me, however, that the right of appealing to such a tribunal, composed, as it must be, of brother officers, was a singular privilege of officers of the Army and Navy. Since a court, of course, would not report concerning legislation, but the matter of legislation can safely be left to the wisdom of Congress. The duty of this Department is to administer properly the laws pertaining to it as they are, and to use, if necessary, the means provided by law to ascertain whether or not imputations like those in question are well founded.

I agree with you that an investigation of the truth of those imputations must be had, but I cannot concur in your views of the propriety of this Department appealing to the Senate to direct it. It is provided by article 115 of section 1,342 of the Revised Statutes that "a court of inquiry to examine into the nature of any transaction or of accusation or imputation against any officer or soldier may be ordered by the President or by any commanding officer;" but, for reasons stated, that courts of inquiry "shall never be ordered by any commanding officer, except upon a demand of the officer or soldier whose conduct it is to be inquired of." In case, therefore, that a court of inquiry is not asked for to investigate and report upon any matters which may be laid before it, in upholding the official fidelity of officers engaged in the performance of the duties of your bureau, I shall feel it my duty to advise the President to appoint a court for that purpose. Referring to your request that your letter of yesterday be given to the press, you have my assent to its publication, accompanied by this. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ROBERT T. LAMOLIN, Secretary of War.

III.

To the Honorable the Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. The motive of the Chief Signal Officer in asking for a Congressional investigation is very clear. Two bills are pending before the legislative branch of the Government—one favored by the Secretary of War, as I understand his annual report and his letter of the 17th inst., and one favored by me. Assertions have been made in the public press that are false, and that make difficult a fair discussion of the merits of the proposition involved. It has not seemed proper to the Chief Signal Officer to ask a court of inquiry, because he desires a fuller

investigation than such a court can give. He is surprised to learn that anyone familiar with the sources of the charges, or with their true character, should deem any inquiry necessary, except for the information of the public, and he is sure that a Congressional investigation is best adapted to that end. The Chief Signal Officer is as determined that a fair investigation of his bureau shall be had as anyone can be. He has thus far merely expressed his desire as to what means shall be employed. The Chief Signal Officer is also surprised that the Secretary should understand him as saying that he feels that justice may not be done him by a court of inquiry. He said that he desired justice for his bureau and himself, and the text of his letter shows that in saying that the desired end could not be obtained by a court of inquiry he meant simply that an investigation by such a tribunal could not be broad enough to accomplish what he believes all friends of the service desire. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. B. HAZEN,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General, Chief Signal Officer, United States Army.

During the consideration of the Sundry Civil bill in the House on Wednesday Mr. Beltzhoover, of Pennsylvania, made another attack on the Signal Service. He said the speech which he had printed some time ago in the *Record* had been criticised because it had not been delivered on the floor of the House. In order to avoid any misunderstanding he had formulated his statements in a brief form, as follows:

First—The administration of the Signal Service Bureau under H. W. Howgate was the most corrupt, profligate and dishonest which had ever existed in the annals of the Government.

Second—Howgate's methods were characterized by the employment of the whole Signal Service force, who had log rolled to influence Congress to pass legislation for the bureau.

Third—While apparently expending the full appropriation and keeping up the efficiency of the service Howgate was stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars. The amount of his larcenies reached \$600,000.

Fourth—While this corrupt and felonious combination was in progress Howgate was surrounded by a number of educated and well-paid employees who were either marvellously stupid or criminally culpable.

Fifth—That no investigation of any kind had been made to ascertain the character and extent of these frauds, nor had the perpetrator been brought to trial. There were some reasons for this which some persons around the Signal Bureau knew better than anybody else.

Sixth—Gen. W. B. Hazen had never brought Howgate to trial, but had left every employee of Howgate in control of the Bureau.

Seventh—That Hazen not only failed to bring Howgate to justice, but adopted precisely the methods of Howgate in using the employees of the Bureau to influence Congress through Boards of Trade and newspapers.

Eighth—That Hazen had made false pretences to the War Department to secure details of regular officers to be used for that purpose.

Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, in reply, defended General Hazen's integrity and criticised Mr. Beltzhoover's action in making an assault upon that officer in a speech which was not openly delivered, but was printed in the *Record*. That whole speech was founded on incorrect information. This morning the gentleman again made an assault on General Hazen, the burden of his speech being that that officer did not prosecute Howgate. What had he to do with that prosecution? It was an unjust charge; it was an unreasonable charge; it was without foundation, and, like the whole of the tirade, it was based on false information. The gentleman had charged General Hazen with being a general without a battle; a commander without a history. Had he known the slightest rudiments of his country's history he would have known that General Hazen had been under fire as many times as any officer in the service.

Mr. Calkins, of Indiana, bore testimony to General Hazen's bravery during the war.

Mr. Beltzhoover then went on with his specification of charges:

Ninth—That Hazen had been running up the expenditures of the bureau to double what they were under Howgate.

Tenth—That Hazen's petty frauds and speculations were more bold and infamous than Howgate's.

Eleventh—That Hazen was found guilty of base and ignominious cowardice and most disgraceful duplicity.

Twelfth—That Hazen's management of the bureau had not only been profligate and extravagant almost beyond parallel, but also without adequate results.

Mr. Converse, of Ohio, replied to and denied the charge of Hazen's cowardice. He bore a musket ball in his body, received in honorable warfare, yet he was arrayed as a coward by a man who never saw a battle. What was the meaning of this? He could tell what it meant. It was the remnant of a quarrel that had started years ago, when a colonel came before an investigating committee and dared to give testimony that threw from the highest seat in the United States the man who occupied it. That quarrel had been continued from that hour to this, and General Hazen had never seen a day of peace or rest since he gave his testimony. Spies had surrounded him and gone into his very office. Scavengers had been employed to go into his spittoons and waste baskets to pick up remnants of paper and examine them.

Mr. Taylor—And Mr. Beltzhoover has them.

Mr. Converse—And this stuff printed here against General Hazen is largely remnants which have been dragged out of his waste basket.

Mr. Beltzhoover said that the information on which he based his charges was derived largely from record evidence, and asserted that the records of the Hazen court martial corroborated his charge of cowardice. As to the remarks of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Converse), did the gentleman mean to say that either he or General Hancock, or General Sherman, or the President, or the Secretary of War, was in a conspiracy to break down poor, little Brigadier General Hazen because he had brought Belknap to trial?

Mr. Converse—No; and they have never made such charges as the gentleman repeats. But I do believe that men have been set on Hazen's track, using foul words to him, in order to drive him into a fight and so get an opportunity to kill him.

Mr. Butterworth, of Ohio, earnestly defended General Hazen's character for honesty and bravery, and suggested that the gentleman from Pennsylvania had put himself in an unenviable light before the country in attacking that officer without formulating his charges and asking for an investigation.

Mr. Beltzhoover stated that he would have demanded an investigation but for the approaching adjournment of Congress.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS—2d SESSION.

THE SENATE.

The Senate on Thursday considered and passed the Army Appropriation bill, and later on commenced the consideration of the Navy Appropriation bill, the debate on which was continued far into the evening. We give elsewhere full particulars concerning the action on these two bills which so intimately effect the interests of the services. Immediately after the passage of the Army Appropriation bill on Thursday the Fortification bill was taken up, and after very little debate was passed as it was reported from the committee, with the exception of an amendment proposed by Mr. Logan, which was merely a correction of an oversight on the part of the committee in leaving out the word "breach-loading" in the line which says for making and testing two twelve inch cast iron rifled cannon. It was amended so as to read: two 12 inch cast iron breach-loading rifled cannon.

The Senate Naval Committee, on Wednesday, reported favorably upon the bill, S. 2436, authorizing the requirement of an oath as to age from recruits for the Navy before enlistment, and, in the case of minors, from their parents or guardians, and to empower commissioned officers of the Navy to administer such oaths. An amendment of minor importance was made, and the bill was subsequently passed by the Senate.

The committee also passed favorably upon bill H. R. 5674, which passed the House February 13 instant, authorizing the appointment of Edward Bellows, Paymaster, U. S. N., to take rank and position on the list of such paymasters in the position where his name now stands on the Naval Register. In the report on this bill, the committee cite the facts in the matter of his dismissal, and his restoration to the service, and say:

Your committee have investigated the charges preferred against Paymaster Bellows, on which he was tried, and find that he did not receive a dollar of funds of the Government which he had not accounted for. The record thus forwarded was filed in the Navy Department, and the sentence was never approved by the President of the United States, as provided in E. S. section 1624, Art. 53. January 26, 1869, the Secretary of the Navy, by letter, summarily dismissed Paymaster Bellows from the service contrary to law. . . . Soon after he went on duty in the steamer *Alaska*, the Supreme Court rendered the decision in the case of *Blake v. U. S.* (13 Octo. 227). After the opinion in this case, it was claimed to the Department that the decision affected the title of Paymaster Bellows to his office. On account of such claim, on June 1, 1881, Paymaster Bellows was called home from Peru, where his vessel was stationed, and was put on "waiting orders," and is now, and ever since has been, on such orders. Paymaster Bellows has the highest testimonials as to his moral character, fidelity and ability during his connection with the Sub-Treasury, and since his restoration to the Navy. The relief sought does not increase the number of paymasters fixed by law, nor disturb the list of paymasters as they now appear upon the Naval Register. Your committee are of opinion that all questions as to the title of Paymaster Bellows to his office should be quieted, and therefore recommend the passage of the House bill.

The Senate Pensions Committee reported to the Senate on Monday the bill H. R. 6943, granting a pension of \$50 per month to the widow of the late Major General G. K. Warren. The Committee recommended the passage of the bill and adopt the report of the House made in December last, which correctly sets forth the long and distinguished services of General Warren. The Committee on Pensions in their favorable report on S. 1856, to increase the pension of Mrs. Mower, widow of General Joseph A. Mower, U. S. A., to \$50 a month, say: "At the outbreak of the late war he held 'the rank of first lieutenant and for gallant and meritorious service was rapidly promoted until August 13, 1864, he attained the rank of major general. He was in many battles, and was distinguished for his great courage and efficiency. His military record, furnished by the War Department, is too long to incorporate in this report; but for long, continuous, and efficient service of high rank and fidelity to the Government in time of need, he had but few, if any, superiors."

THE HOUSE.

In the House, on February 15, on motion of Mr. Robinson, of Ohio, by unanimous consent, the bill, S. 1017, for the relief of A. H. Von Luettwitz, was taken from the Speaker's table, read twice, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A letter from the Secretary of War, in response to House resolution of January 16, 1883, calling for information in reference to the measures taken to secure the arrest and trial of H. W. Howgate, late property and disbursing officer of the U. S. Signal Service, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The following resolution was reported for the Committee on naval affairs and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy and of the Treasury, respectively, be directed to report to the House what means are now employed by law and the regulations of their Department for the security and preservation of human life and the safety of passengers and seamen on river, lake, and ocean steamers and other naval vessels, particularly the character of any life saving apparatus employed and carried on such vessels, and of life preservers, their material, weight, buoyancy, efficiency, and cost of the same and the yearly public expenditure therefor, and by what experimental tests, if any, the same may have been approved, together with any recommendation deemed expedient to further insure the safety of human life on naval vessels or on those of commerce.

Leave was given to Messrs. Bragg, Dawes and Wheeler to print some remarks on the Fitz-John Porter bill.

The House Committee on Military Affairs on Thursday voted favorably upon the following resolution introduced in the House on Monday by Mr. McCosh:

That the Secretary of War is hereby directed to inform this House of the number of vacancies that have existed at the United States Military Academy each year during the five years last passed preceding July 1, 1883, the number of candidates appointed to fill such vacancies, the number admitted to the corps of cadets, the number of cadets graduated each year, and the number of cadets found deficient.

The resolution was subsequently adopted by the House. Mr. Beltzhoover's resolution calling upon the Secretary of War for all correspondence between himself and the chief signal officer during the month of

February, 1883, was rejected for the reason that the correspondence referred to has already appeared in the newspapers.

In the House, Feb. 19, Mr. Flower submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to inform this House whether there have been reported by the customs officers any attempts to smuggle goods by officers of the Navy or to defraud the Government of any duties upon imported goods within the last ten years; and, if so, the number of such instances.

Mr. Cox, of New York, also submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce:

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to furnish, as soon as convenient, to the Speaker of this House all documents in the possession of his department containing observations on glaciation, birds, natural history, and the medical notes made upon cruises of revenue cutters in the year 1881.

Mr. Beach submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be instructed to report to this House the number of vessels belonging to the Navy which have been materially damaged at sea, or have collided with other vessels, or have been run aground in port or elsewhere in each year during the last ten years, together with a statement of the number of naval vessels in commission for each year of such period.

Mr. Ward introduced a joint resolution (H. Res. 354) tendering the thanks of Congress to, and conferring additional rank on, Chief Engineer George W. Melville, United States Navy, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dezenzendorf by unanimous consent, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported, as a substitute for H. R. 7059, authorizing the President to place Robert Smalls on the retired list of the Navy, a bill (H. R. 7626) authorizing a reappraisal of the steam transport boat *Planter* captured by Robert Smalls, and for distribution of proceeds thereof; which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the Private Calendar, and, with the accompanying report, ordered to be printed.

The House Naval Affairs Committee, in submitting to the House the resolution (H. Res. 128) tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. J. H. Gillis, U. S. N., make the following brief report:

The committee recommend the passage of the resolution as an act of justice due Capt. J. H. Gillis, who in 1869, when a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, at imminent peril to himself, succeeded in rescuing three sailors from the sinking schooner *Philomena*, of the Argentine Republic, in the harbor of Montevideo, and for which he long ago received the thanks of every Government except his own.

The bill introduced by Congressman Bliss, of Brooklyn, to sell Wallabout Bay property, and which has been pending for several sessions, has, through the efforts of Mr. Bliss, at last reached a stage for actual consideration, as the House Committee on Naval Affairs has instructed the chairman, Mr. Harris, to move as an amendment to the Sundry Civil Service bill, when the bill is considered, a section authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to sell the land at the Brooklyn Navy-yard adjacent to Wallabout. The appointment of appraisers is authorized, and the ground is to be sold to the highest bidder. The city of Brooklyn has the privilege of buying out of parcel A, fronting on the water, at the appraisers' valuation, as many lots as may be selected for a market site.

The House Naval Affairs Committee this week agreed to, and reported to the House, the bill H. R. 6932 to place Assistant Engineer Howard D. Potts, U. S. N., on the retired list of the Navy. In January, 1874, the case of Mr. Potts was referred for examination to the Retiring Board, which reported that he was incapacitated for active service and that his incapacity did not originate in the line of duty. The committee report that all the evidence shows that great injustice was done Mr. Potts by the Retiring Board, and that he incurred the disability which incapacitated him for the performance of duty while in the line of his legitimate duty.

The bill H. R. 153 to reimburse John P. Gregson, Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, for expenses paid by him on account of compulsory residence in Rio de Janeiro in pursuance of the order of Rear-Admiral J. H. Strong, U. S. N., was reported adversely.

With their report recommending the passage of a bill authorizing the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad to extend its road on to the military reservation at Fortress Monroe the House Committee on Military Affairs publish letters showing that Gen. Getty, commanding at Fortress Monroe, favors the measure, and believes it will be an advantage for possible warlike operations, that Gen. Hancock concurs in the views of Gen. Getty, and that the General of the Army believes that the privilege should be granted. In view of these facts the committee are of the opinion that the extension of said railroad will add greatly to the purposes of fortifications and national defence.

The bill provides that the railroad shall construct and maintain "a suitable station, convenient and at all times accessible and open for the military business of Fortress Monroe."

Mr. Lincoln holds that the passage of the act authorizing the General of the Army to perform the duties of the Secretary in the event of his absence obviates the necessity for an assistant. Mr. Chandler's reasons for his opinion to the contrary are given in a letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations:

1st. There is work for such an assistant, and economically it would be cheaper to employ him and dispense with the services of lower subordinates; 2d. He is needed to strengthen the civil influence of a department constituted almost entirely of naval officers with military habits and opinions, and holding life commissions. Says Mr. Chandler:

The sole civilian assistants of the Secretary are the chief clerk and a few other subordinate clerks. In the whole es-

tablishment there is no lawyer but the Secretary himself. When he ventures away there is no civil authority left except that of the conservative chief clerk, and he cannot become the acting Secretary, but a Naval officer may be made such. Thus has conformity to the constitutional theory concerning the direction of the Navy been reduced to a minimum. The situation in the War Department, if I may properly refer to it, is even worse than in the Navy Department, because it is so much larger. It is remarkable that, while all the other Departments have retained their assistants, the Assistant Secretaries of War and of the Navy have been eliminated from those Departments, and each Secretary, with only a chief clerk, been instructed by Congress to do his best to fairly and judiciously adjudicate between rival officers and contending corps, and to control and wisely and legally manage an overgrown and expensive military establishment. It might be better to reverse our theory, and entirely withdraw the civilian Secretaries, and give supreme military control to the General of the Army and the Admiral of the Navy. But I hesitate not to say that the real public interests require a return to the traditional policy, and the placing in each Department of a Secretary, one or more Assistant Secretaries, and a Solicitor learned in the law, to be taken from the ablest men in civil life whom liberal salaries will secure. In 1865 the present Secretary entered the Navy Department as its Solicitor. Mr. Welles was Secretary, Mr. Fox Assistant Secretary, and Mr. Faxon chief clerk. Civil influence did not, even then, seem to me to be unduly dominant. Now it depends solely on the chief clerk and myself. The delay in appointing an Assistant Secretary arises entirely from the difficulty of making a suitable selection.

Mr. Deuster has introduced a bill to amend section 2,172 of the Revised Statutes, as follows:

Children of persons who have enlisted or may enlist in the services of the United States, either in the Regular or the Volunteer forces, and have been or may be hereafter honorably discharged therefrom, or who die while in said Armies of the United States, shall, if dwelling in the United States, be considered citizens thereof.

Mr. Deuster said the amendment simply makes children citizens the same as they would be if their fathers had not been thus ignorant of the law requiring them to be naturalized, notwithstanding their discharge. Many unnaturalized soldiers died in the service, and their foreign-born children are still aliens if they have not gone to court to be naturalized. The death of the father in the Army ought to have made them citizens.

The Committee on Pensions on their favorable report on H. R. 6973, to grant a pension of \$50 a month to the widow of Commodore J. M. Watson, U. S. N., say that the deceased officer was in service from 1823 to 1873; that his health was seriously in 1854, when, in command of the *Fulton*, he was exposed to severe storm, producing an attack of pneumonia, which ultimately caused his death. His service was long and faithful and meritorious. His widow is now in the decline of life, and solely dependent on her exertions for support.

ARMY NOMINATIONS.

Corps of Engineers.

Lieut.-Col. Quincy A. Gillmore to be colonel, vice Thom, retired.

Major William E. Merrill to be lieutenant-colonel, vice Gillmore, promoted.

Capt. Andrew N. Damrell to be major, vice Elliot, promoted.

Capt. Chas. J. Allen to be major, vice Robert, promoted. Capt. Chas. W. Raymond to be major, vice Merrill, promoted.

1st Lieut. Phillip M. Price to be captain, vice Allen, promoted.

1st Lieut. Francis V. Greene to be captain, vice Raymond, promoted.

2d Lieut. John Biddle to be 1st lieutenant, vice Price, promoted.

2d Lieut. Henry F. Hodges to be 1st lieutenant, vice Greene, promoted.

5th Cavalry.

Capt. Louis H. Carpenter, 10th Cavalry, to be major, 5th Cavalry, vice Hart, deceased.

10th Cavalry.

1st Lieut. Richard H. Pratt, 10th Cavalry, to be captain vice Carpenter, promoted.

2d Lieut. James S. Jouett, 10th Cavalry, to be 1st lieutenant, vice Pratt, promoted.

Transfers.

Capt. John C. White, 1st Artillery, to be captain, 6th Cavalry.

Capt. Gilbert E. Overton, 6th Cavalry, to be captain, 1st Artillery.

ARMY ORDERS TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

Hospital Steward Felix Fetting, Med. Dept., will proceed from Fort Wayne, Mich., to Fort Porter, N. Y., and report to Col. O. B. Wilcox, 12th Inf., President of the Army Retiring Board in session at that post, as witness in the case of 1st Lieut. Edwin R. Clark, 10th U. S. Inf.; returning to his station upon completion of his duty (S. O. 32, Feb. 22, D. E.)

The following officers at Fort Wayne, Mich., will proceed to Fort Porter, N. Y., and report to Col. O. B. Wilcox, 12th Inf., President of the Retiring Board in session there, as witnesses in the case of 1st Lieut. Edwin R. Clark, 10th Inf.: Capt. W. L. Kellogg, and 1st Lieuts. C. S. Burbank and C. E. Bottsford and 2d Lieuts. S. Y. Seyburn and R. C. Van Vliet, 10th Inf. (S. O. 32, Feb. 22, D. E.)

The leave of 1st Lieut. C. A. Johnson, 14th Infantry, is extended three months (S. O., W. D., Feb. 23).

Leave of absence for six months on surgeon's certificate of disability is granted Captain James H. Gageby, 8d Infantry (S. O., W. D., Feb. 23).

The following transfers in the 3d U. S. Artillery are ordered: 1st Lieut. Chas. Humphreys, from Light Battery F to Battery B; 1st Lieut. Chas. Sellmer, from Battery B to Light Battery F. Lieut. Sellmer will join his battery at San Antonio (S. O., W. D., Feb. 23.)

AN EPISODE OF LIBBY PRISON.

In the number of the "Southern Historical Society Papers" for February and March, Rev. Dr. J. L. Burrows gives some recollections of his ministerial experience in connection with the Libby Prison, Richmond, with which so many survivors of the civil war associate unpleasant memories. "The Libby Prison," says Dr. Burrows, "was a large brick tobacco factory, three stories high, owned and used by the manufacturer whose name it bears. It was opened by the Confederate authorities as a hotel for the reception of Federal troops, who persisted in marching 'on to Richmond,' after the first battle of Manassas, and who, instead of being required wearily to tramp into the capital of the 'Old Dominion,' were generously allowed to make the journey in railway cars."

It will be remembered that on one occasion it was proposed to hang as pirates the captain and crew of a Confederate privateer, and that fourteen of the occupants of Libby were chosen by lots to be hung in retaliation. These were the Irish Colonel Corcoran, Colonels Lee, Wilcox (O. B.), Woodruff, and Woods; Lieutenant Colonels Bowman and Neff; Majors Potter, Revere, and Vogdes, Captains Rockwood, Bowman, and Kaffer; Captains Ricketts and McQuade, who had drawn fatal numbers, being substituted by others on account of their wounds. Says Dr. Burrows:

"An interesting episode took place in relation to Colonel E. Raymond Lee, of Boston, in connection with these transactions. A few days before he had been designated, at the request of the prisoners, to go North on parole to procure clothing, blankets, etc., for their use during the approaching winter. The papers had been prepared, and he expected to leave on his humane errand the next morning. But on that ominous morning the order for the lot selection came, Colonel Lee was one of the hostages. General Winder, a West Point classmate and personal friend of Colonel Lee, with a sad heart entered the prison and said to him:

"Colonel, everything is changed. I come to tell you that I am ordered to place you and thirteen other officers of highest rank in close confinement as hostages for an equal number of so-called pirates. I am sorry to say, Colonel, that if these men hang so must you."

"Colonel Lee met the disappointment like a brave man, simply saying: 'I left home thinking it possible that I might die on a battlefield; but if my country thinks that I can serve best by dying at the hangman's hands, I can meet even that death without a shudder.' The stringent measure checked the thirst for the 'pirates' blood, and the hostages, a few weeks later, were released and exchanged."

The more tragic fate of another prisoner sentenced to death is thus described:

"In 1863—my memoranda are lost—I was sent for to visit a prisoner in solitary confinement named Webster, who was about to be tried by court martial as a spy. He was quite reticent as to his antecedents until after the trial, which resulted in a death sentence. Then he talked with me quite freely about his career. He had been recognized by some of the guards as having been an enlisted Confederate soldier at Island No. 10, on the Mississippi River, which had been captured in April, 1862. He acknowledged, what had clearly been proven on the trial, that he had enlisted in a Confederate regiment for the purpose of examining and reporting the state of the defences on Island No. 10. He had secretly made full drawings of the fortifications and forwarded them, or by escaping carried them to the Federal leaders. He was a well educated, athletic, handsome young man, and was said to have been a nephew or relative of John Brown. On the morning appointed for his execution I visited him early, and after conversing and praying with him, proposed to introduce one of the United States chaplains, of whom several were then in Libby Prison, to be with him in his last hours. I obtained permission, and authority from General Winder and brought to his cell one of those chaplains. I remained in the hall to bid him farewell, and when I took his hand he said to me: 'You have been very kind to me, and I thank you for it. I have only one more request to make of any man on earth, and that is that you will go with me, pray for me at the scaffold, and stay with me to the last.' I was surprised and very reluctant to witness a scene so horrible, but of course could not refuse the wish of a dying man. The Federal chaplain was returned to his quarters, and I rode with him in a carriage to the fair grounds, the place of execution. He talked with me quite calmly, charged me with some messages to his family, begged me to accept a ring which he took from his finger; said he did not feel as though he was to be executed for any mean or disgraceful crime; that he was trying to serve his country at the suggestion of his officers, and knew well the danger to which he had exposed himself, and was prepared to meet it. He was as brave a man as I ever met, and with perfect self-possession mounted the scaffold, and, glancing at the rope and the distance to the ground, quietly said to the marshal, who was fastening the cord to the cross-beam, 'Please make the fall longer!' I trembled more than he did, and so did many brave hearts among his guards when the drop fell."

THE JAPANESE INDEMNITY.

The two Houses of Congress have reconciled their differences on the Japanese Indemnity bill through the medium of a committee of conference. As it becomes a law, the bill allows Japan \$785,000, the principal of the sum remaining from her payment to us, without interest. An allowance is made of \$140,000 for prize money to the crews of the *Wyoming* and *Takiang*—not out of the fund or by way of deduction, but paid out of the Treasury itself. The ground upon which the Senate insisted upon returning only the principal sum to Japan was explained by Mr. Morrill in a long speech, in the course of which he said: "There is no record of ours that needs to be covered with sackcloth and ashes;

nor can shame, real or pretended, be coveted as a virtue. But having once voted with a majority of the Senate to return \$785,000 to Japan, I shall do so again, for the reason that, by the agitation of the subject here, we have given her some reason to expect it from our abounding means and more abounding liberality, and not, as she well knows, from any legal, moral or abstract right. I shall, however, vote for no bigger sum, no matter how plausibly urged; and of course not for the wonderfully expanded \$3,107,283 so cleverly wrapped up in the original bill of the House providing for payment in bonds now bearing a high premium. I am barely willing to return in cash just the amount we received in a lump sum, not from any remorse, but from good-will and present favor; and I will not go into a counting house calculation of profit and loss, equally unworthy of Japan or ourselves. With very much else of stubborn facts in the account, the lives of American freemen were covered by the indemnity, and no power can compel me to admit that they were valued too highly. Whatever we may do should be done as an extreme favor, and not as a confession that we have profited by a false pretence."

Speaking of the part taken by our Navy in levying this contribution in Japan, Mr. Jones, of Florida, said: "We had but one little ship, and, as I said before in my place in the Senate, the history of our foreign relations will not show an instance where more generosity was exhibited on the part of the foreign powers toward us than in this particular instance; for while we were able to bring little or no support to them in this common undertaking which had for its object the preservation of the lives and property of our people and theirs, when it came to a distribution of the indemnity fund that resulted from this affair they did not stand upon any little half-way ground; they did not measure the amount of our force, or the number of our guns or of our seamen, but they gave us a proportion of the indemnity which their arms had wrung from this treacherous power that had kept in peril the lives of other people and our own; and after twenty years or more, without consulting the powers at all through whose aid and co-operation we obtained the money, we go to work to put on a show of virtue, which we say they do not possess, for the purpose, it may be, of some little commercial advantage, to take and deposit our portion of the money back in the Japan treasury, and then say that the nations of the world that kept this are all rogues and villains, and that we only are honest men. That is exactly our position in this matter. I do not approve of the principle which undertakes to pay a part of this fund to our own Navy and the officers who were engaged in the exploit there."

"Mr. Bayard—No portion of the fund is paid to our own Navy. It is paid out of the general fund in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated."

"Mr. Jones, of Florida—It is in the same report, and the principle is equally objectionable. I do not know what the Army and Navy are for unless it is to protect the rights of the American people in every part of the globe. It is only now and then that they are called upon to run great risk of life, and when the occasion arises which requires them to expose themselves to public force I do not think it is anything but what falls within the line of their ordinary duty, and it does not present a case that calls for extraordinary reprisals. This was not a case where any prize money was due certainly, because according to the principle of the report the whole of this money, or at least the principal of it, ought to go back to the Government of Japan. Then it is proposed to pay \$145,000 out of the Treasury to the officers and seamen of our own public force that were engaged in protecting the lives of our own people."

DETERMINING THE ERROR OF THE COMPASS.

In the Senate, Feb. 17, Mr. Morgan submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to make inquiry as to the merits of an instrument invented by Frank Moore for determining the error of the compass, and whether it should be adopted for use in the Navy.

In support of this resolution the following letter was read:

January 26, 1883.

SIR: In obedience to your verbal order to examine and report upon the instrument invented by Capt. Frank Moore for determining the error of the compass (variation and deviation combined), I have the honor to submit the following:

The principle of the instrument depends on a means of measuring at any time of the hour angle of the sun, and this object is realized by a very ingenious and beautiful contrivance. Upon the glass of an ordinary compass bowl fitted with delicate quintal motion is fixed a white circular card (celluloid in material). This card is concentric with the compass pivot beneath. A graduation of hours and five-minute subdivisions from 4 A. M. to 8 P. M. extends upon the card close to the periphery, and a corresponding graduation is further in from the rim; a mirror, movable about a vertical axis, rises from the centre of the card, a vertical line is graved along its middle, and from the lower end a pointer, fixed to the mirror, projects and extends to the inner graduation; a tangent (andless) screw gives the mirror the small requisite motion; to the outer end of an arm, revolving under the card, is fixed a vertical sight vane fitted with a delicate vertical wire. The compass bowl itself has a free motion about a vertical axis.

A 12 o'clock mark on the card is contained in a diameter that appears as a lumbar line on the inside of the bowl. The essential conditions of adjustment for the instrument are that the graduated card be horizontal (which is insured by the delicate gimbals suspension of the compass bowl), and that the graded line on the mirror and wire of the sight vane be parallel to each other, and perpendicular to the plane of the card, an adjustment as simple and as easy to make as that of the sextant.

To determine the compass error, suppose at 8 A. M., a watch set to local apparent time, about two minutes before 8; move the sight vane along the rim of the circle until the vertical wire is exactly upon the 8 hour line of the outer graduation. Then by means of the tangent screw move the mirror until the pointer is exactly upon the 8 hour line of the inner graduations. The peculiar feature of the instrument now appears: With a clear sun the line of the mirror and the wire of the sight vane cast each a sharp black shadow line upon the white card; these shadow lines will intersect in every position in which a diameter through the line on the mirror and the wire of the sight vane is not directed to the sun; they will coincide and appear as one only when that diameter points to the sun's centre, then the diameter through the 12 o'clock mark, and consequently the lumbar line on the inside of the bowl will be in the true meridian. Now, to return to our observation: The moment the watch shows 8 o'clock, swing

gently the compass bowl until the shadow lines coincide, instantly look down at the degree mark of the compass card opposite the lumbar line—it is the compass error!

The observations can be repeated at will every five minutes and a series of determinations of the same point or by steaming slowly from point to point.

The errors for the thirty-two points are obtained with the greatest facility and quickness, and without any computations whatever.

The only quantity necessary to be known is the apparent time, and even in this some inaccuracy is admissible without materially affecting the result; an error of one minute ($=15'$ longitude, which ought to be ample allowance) would generally entail no very appreciable defect in the resulting compass error.

The simplest method now in vogue for obtaining the compass error (s. e. by time azimuth) necessitates our knowing the geographical latitude and the sun's declination, in addition to the apparent time; and further requires a small computation in order to arrive at the desired object.

A few slight mechanical changes would render the instrument readily adaptable to the compasses now in use in the Navy, and I should consider it a desirable acquisition. In smooth water it would certainly perform satisfactorily, while in a seaway I can not conceive it being more liable to error than the instruments now used for the same purpose. However, as only actual use at sea can determine this point and develop its qualities, I can only venture an opinion as regards its usefulness, and that is, that as far as I can base my judgment upon experience with like instruments at sea, it is capable of as easy manipulation as the instruments now used, susceptible of as great accuracy, and affords the desired result without the delay of computation.

C. A. LYONS, Lieut. Commander U. S. Navy.

Capt. JOHN G. WALKER, U. S. Navy, Chief Bureau of Navigation.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R.—We can supply back numbers of the JOURNAL for last December, 1882, and January, 1883.

STAFF asks: A special order accepting the resignation of an officer in our National Guard service is received at headquarters of a regiment. Does the adjutant then issue a general or a special order to the regiment? That is, does he send a general order embracing the special order above named to the companies or simply send a special order to the officer. Ans.—In a strict military sense all orders should be published to the command concerned, but this is very seldom, if ever, carried out to the letter. In the above instance the publication of the original special order would be sufficient for all purposes, the officer concerned receiving a copy, but in National Guard organizations cases of this kind are generally made subjects of regimental general orders.

M. L. P.—Rear Admiral J. B. Akeley Creighton, U. S. N., was born in Rhode Island, March 12, 1821. We do not know his parents' first names.

NON COM. OFFICERS asks: On page 364, U. S. Army Infantry tactics under the heading of "1. Officers and Non-commissioned Officers, the front and centre. 2. March." It is the custom at some posts for the non-commissioned officers to wait for the command "forward march" from the senior N. C. O. of the guard. This I would like to have your decision upon as to whether it is correct or not. I hold that the non-commissioned officers should pass around the flanks and form in order of rank 3 yards in rear of the officers of the guard, and that the senior N. C. O. has no right of giving any command. Ans.—The senior non-commissioned officer has no right to give any command. It is customary, however, that non-commissioned officers, when uniting in front of the guard after passing around the flank, mark time for an instant so as to enable all to take their proper position in order of rank before marching to the front. This is done without any command, however.

FOR BONO asks: I left Austria when I was eighteen years old, came to the United States, served five years in the Army, and was discharged, took out my naturalization papers, then went back to Austria. Can the Austrian authorities compel me to go in the Austrian army under these circumstances? Ans.—So far as we are aware, there is no treaty yet with Austria governing this matter. North Germany has a treaty with us, we believe, under which an American citizen, originally from Germany, can go back there, and, for three years, retain all the rights accruing to him from his American citizenship. The State Department may be able to give full information.

C. B. asks: Are there any vessels in the British Navy with five masts? Ans.—Yes. The *Minotaur*, Northumberland, and *Agincourt*, which have full sail power (5 masts).

J. McM. asks: "A soldier has \$100 deposited with the paymaster at date of discharge—subsequently he is apprehended, tried and found guilty of desertion, and sentenced to forfeit all pay and allowances, now due or may become due. Does he forfeit the \$100 deposited with the paymaster?" Ans.—He does. Par. 2456, Army Regulations, 1881, distinctly says: "Deposits and interests thereon are forfeited by desertion."

INQUIRER asks: Can a man who was granted a pension draw said pension while serving in the General Service Detachment of Clerks at a Division or Department Headquarters. Ans.—No; consult sec. 4,724 Revised Statutes.

CORPORAL asks: 1. Supposing that an officer of the day, in visiting the sentinels on post, should order a sentinel to give him (the officer of the day) his rifle and equipments, would the sentinel be committing a breach of military rules by delivering up to the officer of the day his arms and equipments? 2. Is it proper for the sentinel upon post at the guard house when the officer of the day approaches the guard-house at roll calls to call out "Sergeant of the guard, officer of the day," the guard being paraded in front of the guard-house at the time? 3. What is the proper way for the corporal of the guard to advance the officer of the day when the officer of the day visits the guard after taps? Ans.—1. Yes. The officer of the day is one of the personages entitled to give orders to a sentinel. 2. It is proper and customary at many posts. At other posts No. 1 is required to call out "Turn out the guard," etc. although the guard is already paraded. The object is to call the attention of the sergeants of the guard to the approaching officer of the day. 3. No. 1 having challenged and halted the officer of the day and called the corporal, the latter approaches the officer of the day near enough to recognize him, and having received the countermand in the usual manner, calls out "Turn out the guard, officer of the day," assuming the position of "arms port," upon which the sergeant of the guard calls out, "Advance officer of the day."

EX-ARTILLERY asks the following questions: A nephew of mine wishes to enter the Navy as apprentice boy on one of the school ships: 1. Where must we send him—to New York or to Newport? 2. Where can we get directions as to the medical examination, so he can be examined here by a citizen doctor before going, for the fare from here East and back would be a dead loss in case the Navy surgeons rejected him. 3. Are boys ever allowed a furlough long enough to come here? By answering the above questions you will greatly oblige. Ans.—1. Either at the Navy Yard, New York, or at Newport, N. I. 2. By addressing Commodore Earl English, Chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, Navy Department, Washington. 3. Yes, whenever they are in convenient distance of their homes and time will permit, and they are out of debt, and on the good conduct list.

M. D. asks: When the Board for examining candidates for the position of Assistant Surgeon in the United States Navy is in session, and where it meets. Ans.—March 1, 1883, at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. Three vacancies to be filled.

B. W. asks: 1. What length of time a sailor has to serve, 3 or 5 years, on the first enlistment? 2. Is a company commander allowed to discharge a man one or two days before his time out when a railroad is at hand? Ans.—1. Enlistments for general service in the Navy are for a term of three years, re-enlistment the same. Special service men are enlisted for one year. Enlistments in the Army and the Marine Corps are for five years. 2. In the Army a company commander cannot discharge before expiration of enlistment. Men can be discharged before expiration by order of the President, the Secretary of War, or the Commanding Officer of a Department; by sentence of court martial, and on certificate of disability by the Commander of a Department or an army in the field. In the Navy by authority of the Navy Department, by sentence of court martial, or unfitness for service from causes, ascertained by survey, existing prior to enlistment.

TRANSFER OF THE REVENUE MARINE.

Edward Clark, Chief of the Revenue Marine, has made a long report to the Secretary of the Treasury on the proposition of Secretary Chandler that the Revenue Marine Service be transferred to the Navy Department. Mr. Clark begins by citing the reasons for the proposed transfer that it would give places to a large number of young naval officers for whom the Navy has no use, and at the same time teach them something about the geography of the United States coast, and that it would also be an economical change. Mr. Clark gives a statement of the present condition and effectiveness of the Revenue Marine, and he quotes the last report of the Secretary of the Navy to show the poor condition and inefficiency of the naval force. In view of the comparison, Mr. Clark says that the reasons given for the transfer should be considered carefully. Only from four to six vacancies occur annually in the Marine Service, and these would not give "appreciable" relief to the naval corps, "with its 900 clamorous idlers." In the matter of their becoming familiar with the coast, he thinks they could do in employment on merchant vessels in the coasting trade, and calls attention to "the fact that naval officers in command of vessels have been particularly unfortunate when cruising near the coast." As for the third reason of economy, Mr. Clark says little weight can be given to it, as nearly \$144,000,000 have been appropriated for the Navy since the war, which has produced nothing. "If," he says, "the school of economy to which the Revenue Marine was to be turned over is such as that shown in the affairs of the Navy, and if such is the management by which the promised improvement is to be gained, it is suggested that Congress pause before making the experiment which is invited." In conclusion he says that the good condition and efficiency of the Revenue Marine, justice to its officers and history, and its record demand its retention in the Treasury.

THE QUARTERMASTER.

We are in receipt of the following which is said to have been written by Lieut. Thos. M. Wente, 19th Infantry, who died of yellow fever at Fort Brown, Texas, last summer:

Who draws no pay for extra work?
Who has no chance at all to shirk
If he should be without a clerk?
The Quartermaster.

When floors give way and roofs all leak,
Who is the one they always seek?
The one who always looks so meek?
The Quartermaster.

When shelves are wanted, hencoops, too,
Chests, chairs, and tables all made new,
Whom do they go and interview?
The Quartermaster.

When houses need a coat of paint,
For the want of which the ladies faint,
Whom do they seek without restraint?
The Quartermaster.

Who gets no thanks when things go right?
Who tries to please with all his might?
Who always fails? that luckless wight?
The Quartermaster.

Who gets the curses, bears the shame?
And who alone must stand the pain,
If things go wrong? Who is to blame?
The Quartermaster.

A MARINE CORPS BALL.

The non-commissioned officers and privates of the U. S. Marine Corps, stationed at Brooklyn, N. Y., gave their second annual complimentary ball at the Grand Central Hall, Brooklyn, on Friday evening, February 16. The hall was handsomely decorated with flags, streamers and flowers and the corps stand of colors, together with some stacked muskets. An arrangement of gas jets, forming the words U. S. Marine Corps added brilliancy to the decorations. There was an excellent attendance at the ball, and the members of the corps in new full dress uniforms, with their accoutrements highly burnished, appeared to unusual advantage. The personal bearing of the men was remarkably creditable. We understand many of them were recent recruits, and it is evident much care is exercised to obtain a desirable class of men in securing enlistments.

The ball was an enjoyable one, and was a financial success, notwithstanding the unsatisfactory weather. A number of members of Brooklyn regiments of the National Guard were present, also representatives from the 6th U. S. Artillery. Mr. Luciano Contorno, with fifteen members of his band, furnished excellent dance music.

What was evidently a source of pleasure to the Marines was the presence of their commanding officers, including Col. Charles Heywood, Commandant of the Marine Barracks; Capt. Henry J. Bishop, accompanied by Mrs. Bishop; Capt. E. P. Meeker, Lieut. F. D. Webster and his daughter, Miss May Webster; Lieut. Comdr. F. A. Miller, of the receiving ship *Colorado* was also present. The quiet interest displayed by the official guests was grateful to their hosts, and their attendance must have a good effect. Among the other guests were Capt. Barlow and Lieut. Curran, Kline and Morris, of the 14th Regiment, of the National Guard. The guests were courteously received and cared for by the Marines.

The members of the corps attached to the receiving ship *Colorado* joined with those stationed at the Marine Barracks in getting up the ball. Sergeants R. McClure, W. Casey, and C. Hommel evinced an active interest in carrying out the preparations, and the following is the list of the Committees:

Floor Manager—Charles King.
Floor Committee—Private I. L. LeRoux, Corporal A. Chambers, Privates W. O. Lane, J. A. Frenette, G. B. Snyder and J. McGregor, Corporals P. Schulze and P. Murphy; Privates E. Bennett, O. F. Smith, C. Staples and J. Weston.
Arrangement Committee—1st Sergeant R. McClure, Chairman.—Sergeants H. B. Watts, J. Nass and J. D. Gilbert, Private J. Lane, Sergeants J. A. Parsons and D. Gilles, Corporal H. J. Weber, Private J. Becker.
Reception Committee—1st Sergeant W. Casey, Chairman.—1st Sergeant J. Hansick, Sergeants G. Boyce, C. E. Reicher, C. Hommel, and F. Richards, Corporal J. Maher, Private E. Waldruf, Privates J. Hickey, W. J. Fitzgerald, L. W. Demeritt, J. C. King, J. Carlin, E. McNeill and S. Sharp, Sergeant M. M. Rooke.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NEWPORT (R. I.) JOTTINGS.

NEWPORT, Feb. 24, 1888.

Commander C. E. Clark, U. S. N., has recovered from his illness and resumed the command of the *New Hampshire*. Washington's Birthday was appropriately observed. The Newport Artillery Company, Col. Vaughan, accompanied by the Newport band, made a street parade. The day was observed at the Turpedo Station, Fort Adams and on board of the *New Hampshire*.

Mate Dashford, U. S. N., of this city, has been placed in the Naval Hospital at Chelsea for medical treatment.

Mate Robinson, attached to the *Nina*, met with a serious accident by falling on a slippery sidewalk Tuesday evening. His face and head were badly lacerated.

The contract to build a handsome cottage on Conanicut Island for Lieut. Richard C. Derby, U. S. N., has been awarded.

Mr. E. B. Concklin, of the U. S. Engineer Department, in charge of Col. Elliott, has taken the Grant cottage.

Mr. Melway, the new chaplain ordered to the *New Hampshire*

is well known to the Methodists of Newport. Chaplain Clark, his predecessor, leaves Newport with many regrets.

Engineer Craven, U. S. N., entertained a party of naval officers at dinner Tuesday evening at his cottage on Bedlow avenue.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"New England Bygones" is a series of sketches by Mrs.

* New England Bygones, by E. H. Arr (Ellen H. Rollins). Introduction by Gail Hamilton. Phila.: J. B. Lippincott and Co.

Rollins, the wife of the late Commissioner of Internal Revenue. They have been gathered together by loving hands since her death, and are here presented in a handsome illustrated volume, to which Gail Hamilton has added an appreciative sketch of the authoress. The book is one which will be cherished by all who have home-associations with New England—the New England of our fathers and grandfathers, which is, indeed, the Old England of our still more remote ancestors, who would find themselves more at home to-day in New Hampshire than in Hampshire, in Massachusetts than in Devonshire. Mrs. Rollins had a keen appreciation of the homely farm life, with which the loving recollections of her childhood were associated, and from which she, like so many others, had drawn the inspiration for a life-time. Her graphic pictures of the sturdy characters that filled the old houses on the bleak New England hillsides, tilled the stony farms and wrought out lives made beautiful by conscientious performance of humble duties, are made still more graphic by the beautifully printed engravings in which the artist has reflected the spirit of the New England scenery which symbolized the New England life. Mrs. Rollins writes as one whose New England birthright gives her the keenest appreciation of all New England traits of life and character; the scents of the old farm kitchen—the fragrance of its old apple orchard—the Sunday quiet—the week day industries, she depicts with a skillful hand, and she has made a book that is delightful for any reader, but which will be specially dear to those who draw like her their life blood from New England.

MARSHAL Bazaine is about to publish a work on the Franco-Prussian war, chiefly with a view to defend his conduct at Metz. His book is entitled "Episodes of the War of 1870 and the Siege of Metz." It is dedicated to ex-Queen Isabella of Spain. Among the documents which appear in the work are Marshal Bazaine's autograph report to the Emperor Napoleon while the latter was at Wilhelmshöhe, and a letter from the Marshal to the Empress Eugenie, dated September 14, 1870, advising her to take horse and assume command of the Metz division. The Marshal considers that the defensive qualities of Alsace-Lorraine were not utilized to their fullest extent. He asserts that the disorganization of the War Department at the beginning of the war rendered it impossible to obtain useful information or instructions from headquarters. He declares that he never saw a mitrailleur until that weapon was brought into Metz.

Mr. William H. Glider's book, "Ice Pack and Tundra," will be published this week. It contains an account of the search for the *Jeannette* and a sledge journey through Siberia. It will be copiously illustrated with engravings from photographs and sketches by the author and other members of the search party.

THE last number of the *Rundschau* contains an article on "Strategy," which considers the probable aspects of the next war in Europe. The forces engaged in such a war would, he says, be far greater even than those which were brought into the field in 1870. A single army of five corps occupies eight English miles on the battlefield. But the entire force of a great European State now consists of four or five such armies; and the disasters consequent on the collision of two or more such States would naturally be in proportion to their strength—especially as, thanks to the development of the feeling of nationality, wars will in the future be fought not from policy but from national hostility. Armies will assume the character of great popular migrations, and will be numbered not by hundreds of thousands, but by millions of armed men. This will diminish their mobility. Germany will not again find an open country, with excellent roads; and, however excellent her commanders may be, she will not have the chance again of advancing into an enemy's country with such rapidity and success. The characteristics of the wars of the future will be a slow advance, a constant bringing up of reserves, and defeat caused only by complete exhaustion; flank attacks will be made by armies instead of, as in 1870, by brigades or divisions; and the district used as a battlefield will be entirely devastated. The feeling of nationality will also make it much more difficult to end a war than formerly. Austria will not venture to take back Lombardy and Venice, even if her victorious armies should penetrate to Naples; and Germany would not have been able in 1870 to annex Burgundy and Champagne, although they were at her mercy.

THE Chinese and Japanese Governments are still increasing their naval strength, by the purchase of gunboats and modern vessels of war from European powers, to replace their old war junks, which are fast becoming obsolete; so much so, that Russia has recently decided not to reduce her fleet in the North Pacific.

THE French Army Commission has started a strange question involving what they call the *unité d'origine* for officers. The system which realizes this idea is due to M. Bailleu, and has for its object the suppression of the Polytechnic School, as well as that of St. Cyr, which institutions have furnished so many illustrious names to the French army.

In most of the vessels of war now building on the Continent, the old system of large hatches and sky lights is being adopted, so as to rid the gun deck of smoke as quickly as possible.

GEN. Lord Wolseley, G. C. B., has accepted the presidency of the South London Rifle Club.

The officers of Engineers in Berlin are making interesting experiments in war balloons, and in photographing from a height sufficient to be out of range and command a view of the surrounding country, in spite of a rapid rise. By means of an electric apparatus, a plate has been secured in less than a second.

The appointment of the Prince of Wales as Honorary Colonel of the Pomeranian Hussar Regiment No. 5, also known under the name of Blucher Hussars, was gazetted in Berlin on the 6th of February.

ACCORDING to the St. Petersburg *Vitomosti*, the Russian admiralty require a supplementary credit of 600,000 roubles to cover the extra expenditure of sending several vessels of war into foreign waters, in consequence of the British Expedition to Egypt.

The English military papers inform us that "a new and powerful field gun, designed to supersede the 16 pounder as the weapon of the field artillery, has been proved at the trials in the government marshes, adjoining the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, this week, and passed a satisfactory trial. The new gun weighs the same as the 16 pounder, namely, 12,000 lb.,

but it is a breech loader, and like all the modern guns has an elongated chase or barrel. The metal is steel and in concentric coils. The several advances in the art of gunnery since the 16 pounder was produced by the experimental committee in 1870, have enabled Col. Maitland, Superintendent of the Royal Gun Factories, to bring out this new gun of the same weight to fire a projectile 6 lb. heavier, and it will consequently be known in the service as the 22 pounder. The 16 pounder fires only 3 lb. of powder behind the shot, but the 22 pounder can with safety take 7½ lb., and with this charge it has this week registered the remarkable velocity of 1775 ft. per second, which is 420 ft. higher than the best performance of the gun which it is to supersede. Such a velocity implies a very extensive range, and the gun will probably do effective work with shrapnel shell, at a distance of three miles. A number of the new guns are to be at once manufactured at Woolwich.

ARABI Bey, in his exile in Ceylon, is learning English, in order, as he says, to know what the newspapers are saying about him. He and his fellow-exiles are anxious not only to have their children well educated, but are perfectly willing to have them educated by the English. What is stranger still, they desire that their daughters shall have exactly the same as their sons.

THE coronation of King Kalakaua took place at Honolulu, Feb. 12. About seven thousand persons witnessed the ceremony, which passed off without interruption or disturbance. The commanders of the American, English, and French war vessels in port dressed their ships and the salutes of the batteries echoed the salvos from the shore, and they all manned the yardarms when a signal announced the act of crowning.

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.

A CORRESPONDENT at this post favors us with the following from records of the post, showing the maximum and minimum temperature, for ten days commencing Feb. 1, 1888:

Date.	Max.	Min.
Feb. 1.....	36 deg.	30 deg.
" 2.....	24 "	25 "
" 3.....	10 "	53 "
" 4.....	25 "	56 "
" 5.....	13 "	57 "
" 6.....	5 "	56 "
" 7.....	1 "	42 "
" 8.....	4 "	35 "
" 9.....	6 "	37 "
" 10.....	6 "	34 "

This shows an average temperature, for the ten days, of 28 degrees below zero, and a temperature, during a portion of five days out of the ten, varying from 8 to 18 degrees below the freezing point of mercury.

PROMOTION BY SELECTION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

The article on Promotion by Selection in the Navy, published some time ago in the JOURNAL, is a general onslaught on the whole profession of which the author is a member; it is a wholesale indictment against all courts and boards convened by competent authority, and finally it brands the heads of bureaus as incompetent professionally, and to whom must be traced the "lamentable condition of our ships and their armaments."

Could there be a more severe arraignment by any one, either outside the Navy, or by any one of its own members?

The writer evidently wants promotion, and, like Artemus Ward, he would be willing to sacrifice all his friends for the good of the cause. His argument was but a rebash of those used in the past, and with good, sound, practical legislators will go for naught.

But let us criticize his opening. A clause in the last Naval Appropriation bill, which he says "unfortunately failed to pass," is an indication that members of Congress recognize that promotion by seniority in the Navy does not give satisfactory results. Now, its failing to pass doesn't indicate any such thing. On the contrary, it very plainly shows that members of Congress fail to recognize any necessity for a change in a system which has obtained for the last century. This is the practical, common sense, lawyer-like way to look at the defeat of this little "pet plum." And just here let me say that this clause was introduced, not at the suggestion or prompting of any individual member of that committee, but at the bidding of those in the Navy who hoped and expected to be benefited thereby. The "pet plum" clause, if enacted, would have turned the whole Navy into a political machine and *saute qui peut* would have been the watchword along the whole line. It would have caused servants to devote more time to cultivating the politicians than to the discharge of the duties for which they are paid. The Navy fully appreciates this question, for it has been mooted before by those who have a political backing and has been successfully defeated, and will be again, should these sailor-politicians endeavor to engraft such legislation on an appropriation bill.

We have so often been told by the Admiral of the Navy, by boards and others, that the officers of the Navy were second to none in point of intelligence and morals, and it is left to this writer to say this is all a mistake; it is not so, nor will it be so, till I am placed in position where advancement can be had more rapidly; that's it, all in a nutshell. No, no, Mr. "Promotion," "let us bear the ills we have rather than fly to others we know not of."

The present law of promotion by a system of boards is all that is required, and we want as little political dickering in the Navy as possible. We want no politics in the Navy; we should know no party.

PROMOTION OF OLD.

OFFICERS of both services contemplating Life Insurance, by corresponding with Mr. J. L. Halsey, Secretary of the Manhattan Life Insurance Company, Broadway, New York, will learn in regard to a most trustworthy company, of established reputation and sound financial repute.

A MEMORIAL has been submitted to Colonel M. C. Murphy, Chairman of the New York Assembly Committee on Cities, asking that the Governor and members of the Legislature be present at the ceremonies of next Evacuation Day, and that Nov. 26 be declared a legal holiday for New York, and that an appropriation be made for the coming celebration.

LIEUT. COMDR. GORRINGE.

The friends of Lieut.-Comdr. Gorrings have been for some time aware that he contemplated resigning from the Navy to avail himself of some one of the opportunities for entering upon a business career which offered themselves. A press despatch of Feb. 17 from Philadelphia states: "New York gentlemen have leased the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company's ship building yard in this city, and will at once proceed to enter into competition with other American ship builders. Lieut.-Comdr. Gorrings, U. S. N., it is said, will be in control, backed by William H. Vanderbilt and Henry Villard, President of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. The new company has a contract to build a large iron sailing ship for Mr. Staarback, of New York." Capt. Gorrings is reported as saying in an interview on the subject on his return to New York from Philadelphia, Feb. 19:

I have leased the Philadelphia and Reading Ship Building Yard for a long term of years, and I intend now to go into the ship building business. It has been my intention for several months to resign my position in the Navy, but I have been waiting for my promotion to the rank of commander, which I probably would have received in two or three months. I have been a lieutenant commander now for some 17 years, and it is not calculated to make an ambitious man contented with his lot to keep him for that number of years in one rank. I am going to resign and engage in the business of ship building, because I believe I can make money in the business, and at all events I shall be at the head of the concern which I represent. A number of capitalists have invested in the company of which I am to be the head, and I have money enough behind me to make sure of the enterprise in which I propose to engage now. A New York capitalist asked me to examine the yard and report upon its merits. I made a favorable report, and my impression is that he tried to purchase it and failed. Just after I found that he had given up all idea of securing the yard I began to realize the fact that the adverse legislation in regard to the Navy was going to work mischief with my promotion and that I could never secure a high rank in the Navy, and I went to work to lease this ship building yard. I formed the company and secured the lease. I am to be president of the company, and the entire management is to be in my hands. The men who are advancing the capital are men who don't want to be troubled with the business; they think enough of me to trust me, and I propose to give them a very handsome return for the investment which they have made, even though I have to work under a law which lays a heavy tax on all material which enters into the construction of a ship.

From another interview it appears that there has been some sharp correspondence between the Secretary and Mr. Gorrings. Their relations have not been altogether harmonious since last fall, when the Secretary called Mr. Gorrings to account for his action before the New York Chamber of Commerce with regard to the sale of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The recent trouble was occasioned by the published statements concerning this ship building enterprise. Secretary Chandler addressed a letter to the Lieutenant Commander requesting an explanation. Mr. Gorrings, who is, perhaps, as good a letter writer as the Secretary, replied in a very carefully written letter, stating that while he was engaged in a small way with other business men in the ship building business, he did not think his transactions with them interfered with his duties as a naval officer. He said if they had done so he would have tendered his resignation ere this. His reply was not altogether satisfactory to the Secretary, and as a consequence a further correspondence resulted. Comdr. Gorrings who was in Washington during the week, tendered his resignation as an officer of the Navy before his departure for New York.

Mr. Gorrings refused to make his correspondence public until his resignation was accepted. He is reported as saying:

The Secretary of the Navy has placed himself in this matter in an attitude toward me which cannot fail to rouse against him the indignation of every honorable man in this country. His attack on me was without excuse, as will appear when the correspondence is published, unless he was himself acting in his official capacity in private interests. When I received the Secretary's letter of Feb. 10, which was grossly insulting to me as an officer and a man, I determined to have redress. My reply to his letter elicited no response, except, in the course of several days, a peremptory order to come to Washington and wait further orders. I came to Washington, and upon inquiry at the department found that it was impossible for me to have redress as long as I remained an officer and subject to his control; and, as I was determined to have redress, I resigned in order that I might seek it from the highest authority. All yesterday afternoon and to-day I have been receiving personal visits, letters, and telegrams from my brother officers, begging me, if I have not resigned, to reconsider my determination, and expressing for me the warmest regard and their regret that I intend to sever my connection with the service. I have given them all the same answer—that the course I am pursuing is in the interest of every officer of the Navy, and that as I have never hitherto regarded my personal interests as more important than those of the service, I shall not do so now.

On Thursday the Reading Railroad's ship yard at Port Richmond passed into the informal possession of Lieut. Comdr. Gorrings, who will be allowed to go ahead and make the necessary repairs, the cost of which will be deducted from the rent.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

FORT SHAW, M. T.

FEBRUARY 11, 1888.

This has been a very severe winter here, especially on cattle as a great many have been frozen to death a few miles from this post. For the past three weeks the thermometer has averaged from 25 to 40 degrees below zero, and there has been an abundance of snow, company quarters being almost blocked from snow drift. For the past two weeks our Provost Sergeant, Charles Muller, has been kept very busy supplying the garrison with wood.

The theatre here has changed hands, the Fort Shaw Glee Club being the purchasers, who are making great improvements of new scenery and comfort for their patrons. The Comedy Company are rehearsing and will give a performance shortly. The Quartette Club, led by Spriggs, sang at concert last week, which was very nice, and was loudly applauded. White's Pleasure Party, of Sun River Crossing, will exhibit here on the 17th of this month.

Mr. Riey, who has been chief clerk in Quartermaster's office at this post for the past four years, has been promoted to the position of Paymaster's clerk, under Major Cumey, U. S. A., stationed at Helena. Mr. Riey leaves a great many friends behind, as he was liked by all for his kind and generous disposition and all were sorry to see him leave, but were proud of his promotion, wishing him success in all his travels.

In the past two weeks Co. A has lost 9 men by expiration of

term of service; 10 more whose time expire this year, making in all 19 men. Co. G will lose 10 men, their time expiring before next September.

Troops at this post have improved rapidly in the last three months in target shooting. Dept. Commander mentions in circular received here on the 8th, few companies of the department have surpassed them; prospects are favorable for the 3d Infantry in carrying off some of the honors at the contest which takes place at Fort Snelling. Yours, etc.,

AJAX.

The name of H. R. H. Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward of Wales, eldest son of the Prince of Wales, has been removed from the active list of the navy.

The Danish ironclad torpedo ram *Tordenskjold*, a vessel of 2,400 tons and 2,556 horse power, has given much trouble as the torpedo gear has proved quite unreliable. It was copied as nearly as possible from that of the *Polyphemus*, which has failed also.

THE STATE TROOPS.

ORGANIZATION OF A CAVALRY TROOP.

The act of Congress passed last year authorizing the supply of heavy ordnance by the War Department to State troops for instruction purposes, has made it possible for these troops to become familiar with an arm the use of which in the event of an invasion would be of the highest importance, particularly to the troops of our seaboard States, as has recently been shown by the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL in various articles. It rests entirely with our National Guard to say whether they will avail themselves of this opportunity or let it slip. Several of the State organizations have taken hold of the opportunity, and the experiments made by them in regard to the practicability of instructing the militia in the use of heavy artillery, though at the beginning necessarily conducted in a primitive manner and under difficult circumstances, have demonstrated that the subject is quite feasible. Whether New York, as in the establishment of a signal corps, will remain behind also in this respect remains to be seen.

While writing on the subject of artillery it occurs to us that our whole National Guard does not include one cavalry man, so that in an emergency every single mounted orderly needed by a General officer would have to be improvised. We do not advocate the establishment of a large cavalry force, which, from the nature of the organization of the National Guard would always turn out a failure, but the bulk of the National Guard rests in New York and Brooklyn, and here it is where frequent necessities for parades, escorts, etc., to distinguished persons, foreign as well as American, arise. Not only would the dignity of these occasions be much enhanced by the presence of a well mounted, instructed, and uniformed dashing troop of cavalry, but such a body would, if chosen from the right material, be always available for guard and escort duty to distinguished official visitors to the city from the President down, and a trained force from which mounted orderlies could be selected would always be on hand.

We think that if this matter is taken properly in hand a troop of the above description could be readily organized from gentlemen who own their horses and are good riders, of whom this city contains an abundance, and whose instruction, in view of their intelligence and horsemanship would require but a comparatively limited period if a capable and experienced captain could be procured. Such a one is to be found in the person of Major W. B. Wetmore, late of the 9th New York, a graduate of West Point, an officer who had large experience on the Plains in the cavalry arm of the regular service, and a gentleman whose independent means would enable him to devote all the necessary time to the interests of his command. If established on this basis the State could procure the services of a much needed efficient body of cavalry soldiers at a comparatively small cost, and we recommend the subject to the consideration of the authorities.

It seems that the framers of the new Code had these subjects in view, for the Code makes provision for the appointment of a chief of artillery and the establishment of a Signal Corps.

THE NEW YORK MILITARY CODE.

We have an advanced copy of the new Code, which has been read twice in the State Assembly, referred to the Committee on the Militia, and ordered to be printed. On the whole, it is a document as satisfactory as could be expected, in view of the present state of advancement of the National Guard, and its early passage, and end of the present farce in respect to the Code, is therefore a very desirable measure.

The new Code fixes the minimum strength of the Guard at 10,000, and the maximum at 15,000 enlisted men; reduces the rank of regimental inspectors of rifle practice from captain, as at present fixed, to 1st lieutenant, while it provides for one surgeon with the rank of major and one assistant surgeon with the rank of 1st lieutenant. Gatling batteries are only allowed one 1st lieutenant, while ordinary batteries of light artillery are provided with two. The number of aides to the commander in chief is fixed at six, with the rank of colonel, besides the military secretary, who also holds the rank of colonel.

The provision for the appointment of a Chief of Artillery is among the most important of the innovations, and it is earnestly to be hoped that in filling this position proper regard be paid to qualifications. To fill it properly and advantageously special training and thorough knowledge of the subject are required. If these are considered and proper advantage is taken of the offer of the Government to place heavy ordnance at the disposal of the Militia for instruction, benefits of no mean order can be derived. Instruction in heavy artillery is the most important and can be carried on thoroughly, while that of field artillery among State troops, under present arrangements, at best, can only be carried on to a very limited extent.

Par. 17 empowers the Commander in Chief to attach to each division or brigade "a Signal and Telegraph Corps, to consist of a chief signal officer with the rank of Major, an assistant signal officer with the rank of Captain, one signal sergeant and likewise such enlisted men as may from time to time be detailed from the several organizations of the division and brigade for instruction and service."

This provision is a timely one. The National Guard is much in need of a competent body of signal men, who, as has recently been pointed out by the JOURNAL, would be of the greatest value in time of riots. In many quarters, however, it is thought that the example of the Regular Army ought to be followed in this regard, by making the Signal Corps a State organization, independent of divisions or brigades. By this more competent men could be secured, while ordinary signal instruction in the different regiments could still be carried out by the appointment of acting signal officers.

Par. 24 provides for the examination, previous to being commissioned, of all officers by a board, save general officers, the Staff of the Commander in Chief and aides-de-camp

Being strongly in favor of a rigid examination of officers, as one of the most essential requirements towards securing efficiency of the National Guard, we cannot see the propriety and justice of exempting the Staff and aides of the Commander in Chief from such examination. Here high military qualities and competency are required still more than in the line, and a provision allowing the Commander in Chief to appoint on his Staff people of no military capacity, can only work detrimentally to the interests of the Guard.

Par. 40 referring to enlistments should be so modified as to require a rigid surgical examination of all candidates before enlistment, a provision which would tend much toward improvement of the physique of the Guard.

Par. 49 should be made so as to compel officers to grant men who have honorably served their full term of enlistment their discharges without delay.

Par. 53 settles all the present trouble about accepting the service uniform, as under its provisions organizations who do not want it are not compelled to apply for it.

The provision of par. 70, that funds for the pay of troops should pass through the hands of the Chief of Ordnance, seems unnecessary and unwise, in view of the fact that a Pay Department for the purpose exists. The Ordnance Department should have nothing to do with the payment of troops, its duties being in a totally different quarter.

Par. 143 makes provision to allow troops going to or returning from any parade, encampment, drill or meeting required by law, to pass free through all toll-gates and over all toll-bridges and ferries.

For heaven's sake strike out par 146, providing for issue of brevet commissions. The promiscuous issue of these has worked mischief wherever in vogue, and has always been abused to such an extent as to reduce the value of such commissions to nothing. Brevet commissions should not be conferred except for special acts of bravery, and only in such cases where there is an opportunity to bestow the full rank.

Par. 67 still contains the imprisonment clause, which, in the opinion of many of the best informed National Guard officers, only works to the detriment of the Guard. At best, it is only a relic of barbarism, and the power to inflict it as a punishment is very likely to be abused. If resorted to, all other means of bringing the offender to terms should first be exhausted, and, by all means, his goods and chattels should be levied on first before proceeding to the extreme of imprisonment. The reverse, it is said, is only too often the case under present arrangements. Par. 127, relating to the collection of fines, states that only in default of sufficient goods and chattels to satisfy the due shall the marshal or sheriff or constable take the delinquent to jail. This is good, if carried out, and we would like to see a marshal tried in civil court for the unjustifiable practice of imprisoning first, for the reason that it is easier than levying on the goods and chattels.

The provision of par. 52 that at their original appointment mounted officers shall receive an allowance of \$50, and other officers \$30, towards procuring their uniforms, is to some a welcome one, while in other quarters it is regarded as a weak measure, several officers who have expressed their views on the subject holding that the State should not be burdened with this expense, and officers be able and willing to pay for their own uniforms.

The National Guard is to be congratulated that the present Legislature has among its members many strong friends of the military force of the State, who are desirous of furthering its interests. Among them we mention Senator John C. Jacobs, Hon. Charles J. Henry, Colonel W. H. Thompson, who have had experience in military matters.

NEW YORK.—We are glad to learn that Col. Joseph G. Story, the late efficient Asst. General Inspector of Rifle Practice, has just been commissioned as Assistant in the Ordnance Department with the rank of Colonel.

FORTY-SEVENTH NEW YORK.—Col. Trueman V. Tuttle.—This command on Tuesday evening, Feb. 20, formed with 8 commands of 12 files for preliminary instruction for the coming review and presentation of marksmen's badges on the 27th inst. The movements were very limited, being confined to company and division front marches, manual, and the firing. The formation was prompt and on time, while the other movements, considering the small size of the hall, which necessitates the formation of the regiment in two wings—one behind the other, with another company in rear of all—and the consequent difficulty of forming company or division front, were very creditably gone through. The manual was fair, and the firing by the older members were very good, showing still a good deal of the vim with which the regiment became imbued under the command of Colonel (now Brigadier General) W. H. Brownell. A great many new men were in ranks, Co. D being almost entirely composed of men recruited during the last eight months. The regiment stood reasonably steady during the rehearsal for review.

NINTH NEW YORK.—Col. W. H. Seward, Jr.—The Ninth had its last drill previous to its exhibition in Madison Square Garden on Washington's Birthday on Tuesday evening, Feb. 20. Ten companies of 12 files were in line, but as the movements were the same as stated in our report of the previous drill we do not repeat them here, but pass them over with the general statement that they were still better performed than on the previous occasion, showing every prospect for a creditable showing on Thursday evening, Feb. 22. It is gratifying to see the regiment improving in this manner.

TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—Lieut.-Col. John T. Camp commanding.—The instruction of recruits in a class has been carried out very successfully in the 22d, and the thirty-six men who were turned over to the lieutenant-colonel on Friday evening, February 16, for incorporation in the ranks of companies, showed off to good advantage, and their performance of the manual, the loadings and firing, etc., certainly reflected credit on their instructor, 1st Lieut. N. B. Thurston, of Company E. However well these recruits may be instructed as a body by themselves, when they are distributed along the lines of a battalion their inexperience will show, and to this the faulty execution of several of the manoeuvres at the battalion drill on Monday evening, Feb. 19, is probably to be ascribed. The battalion was equalized into six companies of twelve files with Lieut.-Col. Camp in command, and, after it had been turned over to him in good shape, began the manual, which was, however, not executed with the requisite uniformity, the left company being the most slovenly one and requiring frequent reminders and corrections from the instructor. The usual column of fours march came next, with occasional lack of uniformity in the cadence of the step, a fault which makes its appearance at every drill, but which nevertheless is never corrected. The nearer to the rear of the column, the faultier the step and the greater the loss of distances. The halt and carry, however, during these movements were nearly perfect, and the slope of the pieces at right shoulder very uniform. The remainder

of the drill was almost wholly confined to ployments into divisions and deployments, with a few changes of direction by the right flank and marches in division front. These movements were not as smoothly executed as desirable, the distances being faulty, and captains evidently not as well posted as they should be. The lack of promptness and exactness caused the instructor to repeat the movements over and over again, and the drill was therefore not an interesting one. The faults were mostly due to lack of judgment in giving commands at the right time and consequent want of exactness in their execution, causing a great deal of side-stepping and recovering of lost distances. Guides in a few instances showed themselves not as well posted as they should be, this being particularly noticed in a deployment on first division, when nearly all the company guides had to be ordered out. Considerable talking in ranks while marching in column of fours, without check by file closers, also took place, besides we noticed one captain walking alongside of the first four instead of the first sergeant. The right wing on this occasion did not justify its claim to superiority over the left, the drill of the latter on Friday evening, Feb. 16, being a much more creditable one.

THIRTEENTH NEW YORK.—Col. D. E. Anstett.—The right wing drilled on Monday evening, February 19, under command of Lieut. Col. Gates, with four companies of twelve files. The movements showed little variety, and were of a very simple character, but what there was of it was generally executed with the usual promptness peculiar to the 13th. Of course the column of fours march was the initial movement, and if some attention to the loss of distances in rear of the column, which here, as well as elsewhere, we have repeatedly pointed out, had been paid, the exercises would have been to some purpose, but no corrections were made. The manual, as usual, was very snappy and highly creditable all through. Wheels into column of company, marches in company front, changes of direction and wheels into line were executed with precision and straight alignments, and this was probably the reason for their frequent repetition. The right of companies rear into column was in so far faulty as company commanders usually let their commands slip too far away from them before giving the command for wheeling into line. They would in several instances march several yards beyond their proper positions, and this distance had to be regained by tedious dressing. In forming close column of companies right in front, one of the companies, under command of a 1st lieutenant, went so close to the one in its front as to leave hardly room for the file closers of the latter, while, on the other hand, an unpropitious gap was left between it and the company in its rear. Such errors in movements as simple as the one just mentioned should not occur. A formation of line on the right was marred by a too slow posting of markers, the right company having marched away beyond the right marker before forming line, and the latter therefore became of no use. Having opened ranks, the instructor evidently had forgotten to give the command "front," and when the command close order march was given, it was not obeyed until the command front had been given. A similar error occurred through a failure of giving the command "guides post," and the next movement was therefore marred by some of the commands starting to obey the command for it, while others remained immovable. Mistakes of this kind, mere slips of the tongue, are, however, not of sufficient importance to interfere with the general quality of the drill, which, what there was of it, was very creditable, though somewhat slow.

The battalion was evidently not correctly sized, the shortest men being on the right.

TWELFTH NEW YORK.—Col. S. V. R. Cruger.—The left wing of this regiment, Cos. B, G, E, and H, equalized in four companies, twelve full files, drilled in the school of the battalion, under Col. Cruger, on Friday, Feb. 16, assembly at 8.15, and the battalion being turned over to the colonel, equalized at 8.25. The formation was well made, all the companies moving off at the same time, the manual at the halt and the dress showing a snap rarely seen in the majority of National Guard organizations. The inevitable column of fours was the first movement, and was accompanied by the usual defective step and loss of distances. These were promptly checked by the colonel, who halted the column and called attention to the deficiencies. The improvement, however, was but temporary, and throughout the whole drill the step was imperfect and the distances decidedly loose. An effort was made to steady the battalion by an advance and retreat in line, and the ployment into column on 1st division right in front, while on the march, with a deployment on the second company. These close column formations and deployments were repeated again and again, all in fair shape, the promptness of officers and rapidity of the movements, executed as they were in the very limited space of the small armory, more than covering the few deficiencies of guides and errors in distance. Marching by the flank of companies and divisions, and reforming the column of fours, were followed by right of companies rear into column; this latter movement was for a wonder executed without the ever looked for changes of guides, repeated dressings and shuffling. On first company close in mass was marred by the failure of the right company to support arms, an error followed by the other companies. Take wheeling distance was spoiled by the second company in taking up the march before full distance had been gained by the first company; this necessitated dressing to the rear of the left companies. The close in mass was then executed on the left company, the wheels about by fours being well done. This time the captain of the left company ordered the support arms, the other companies following their leader as in the previous movement. The attention of the company commanders of this wing is invited to par. 490, Tactics. The double column and deployment to the front, double column of fours and deployment by two movements, with close column ployments left in front, and deployments on second, third, and fourth companies were repeatedly executed, all satisfactory except for the repeated breaks of the step and careless distances. After wheeling into line the manual of arms was executed with fair precision. A short rest was then given, the battalion having been on the move for fully one hour and a half. The drill was a very successful effort, if the number of complicated movements and the size of the room are considered. A battalion drill is a test, more of the capacity of officers and guides, than of the individual men, rank and file, and in this regard the Twelfth have reason to be satisfied with their officers, while the men, though careless as to the cadence step and utterly ignoring distances between ranks and companies in the column of fours, were prompt to obey all the orders of their company commanders. Regarding the guides, however, we can hardly say too much in condemnation; they seem completely ignorant of their duties, and even when specially called upon failed to respond with the promptitude which should characterize all their movements. They also fail to appreciate the rudiments of the manual of arms, and forget the example shown to the men by their taking up double time, with the piece in any position but the correct one, and the frequent efforts made to invest the piece while advancing at the double time to establish a new alignment.

The file closers, too, are careless, and if, instead of lounging about with pieces thrown into the hollow of their right arms, they would assume the position of the soldier under arms, and show the appreciation of their offices, by attention to and correction of the faults and backslidings of the men, they would greatly add to the efficiency of their several companies.

After the rest, Capt. John C. Inches, Co. E, was directed to assume command and drill the battalion. The manual was first executed, at open ranks, very neatly done, and then the column of fours march was taken up. The ployments and deployments were repeated, in about the same general manner as in the early part of the drill, though the guides seemed to be aware that they had some specific duties to perform. The double column was handsomely formed from an advance in line of battle, and without deploying, column of fours was formed, the color company having the right of the column. Several close column formations, on first company right and left in front from this column of fours and while on the march, were neatly executed, the column of fours being resumed in all cases. On the right close column of divisions was then given, and the column deployed by "Right into line wheel, left companies on right into line." After circling the room in column of fours, line was reformed and the battalion dismissed.

SEVENTH NEW YORK.—Col. Emmons Clark.—Punctually at the appointed time on Friday evening, February 15, Adj. George Rand, who still looks somewhat pale and thin after his recent illness, turned over to Col. Clark a battalion of six commands of sixteen full files, made up of three companies (B, G and I). Considering that besides this there were plenty of men to spare for the usual guard details, etc., such an attendance is certainly very creditable, and to us the sight of a full, solid battalion, after witnessing so many crippled turnouts, was a very pleasing one. All the officers, including Col. Clark (who is said to have clung to the ancient long tailed frock coat to the last moment), wore the new fatigue blouse, and if the improvement it makes in the military appearance of all is considered, it is a hard matter to understand why such strenuous objections to its adoption were made.

It was the first battalion drill of the season; several companies, among them the first, were under command of lieutenants, who, however well theoretically posted they doubtless are, still lacked practical experience in commanding companies; many guides were new, companies had somewhat forgotten how to work together, and all were somewhat rusty as is usual at the beginning of a season. These circumstances operated somewhat unfavorably, and to them doubtless the few minor mistakes which occurred and drew forth the instructor's corrections are due; yet as a whole the drill is one of the best which has come under our notice this winter. The following is a résumé: Formation was quick as a flash and hardly begun when it was finished. The colonel then ordered several openings and closings of ranks, well and promptly executed, broke the battalion into column of fours to the right, marched the command around the hall, formed line, repeated the movement several times, and then performed the same by the left flank. The step in the beginning was not as uniform as is usual in the 7th, particularly when marching right in front; the alignments and distances were good, however, and line was formed with the least possible loss of time in dressing. The same movements were then executed in double time with satisfactory result. Breaking into column of fours, first from the right and then from the left (line being formed on the right and left), having been executed with good judgment of distances, the column was halted when change of direction was half completed, and line formed by the command "fours left rear companies left front into line." The carry on halting was not uniform, and far below the usual standard of the 7th in executing it. In coming front into line the command for companies to form line was not given at the proper time (company distance from the new alignment) in all cases, and the colonel called attention to the defect. A number of advances in battalion front followed next with passage of obstacles, which were handsomely and clearly executed. In general alignments some company commanders appeared to be indifferently posted, as they attempted to make it a successive movement, company after company, and the movement had therefore to be explained and repeated. A right oblique in line was not good, the line being crooked and the left company did not obey the command promptly. The right company at the command fours left went in the opposite direction, and had to wheel about and double time to catch up. The colonel then took up the double column of fours, forming line by two movements both on the right and left (several companies being slow in supporting arms) and to the front. Whenever the double column was halted the carry was not uniform and not at all as we have seen it executed at company drill. The line was, however, correctly formed in every instance. The battalion was now broken into column of companies and exercised for quite a time in double time movements, especially wheels into line, which were not performed to the satisfaction of the instructor through the fault of the guides, who did not seem to understand that they must stand fast at the command march for wheeling into line. Formations of column to the rear by the right and left, and breaking up column of companies to march to the right and left require no comment; but in forming on right and left into line from column of companies we were surprised to notice that every company commander disregarded so much of par. 455, as directs that the company must be halted three yards from the alignment. In a passage from column of companies marching by the flank into company front column there was some confusion, probably caused by a misunderstanding of the command, and this having been rectified and the battalion formed into column of fours, the execution of companies left front into line in good shape wound up the drill.

Company guides must bear in mind that the marker who indicates the point of changing direction in column of companies is there for their guidance, and that he is no more to be walked over than to be given a wide berth of four or five feet.

NEW YORK.—Col. Porter, of the 22d regiment, unexpectedly left for Europe on the *Atlanta* on Feb. 15, having received a cablegram advising him of the illness of his wife, who, with her two daughters, is in Geneva. Col. Porter hopes to return in eight or ten weeks.

EOLIA'S FORT. No 32, G. A. R., had a pleasant time at their sixteenth annual ball in the Germania Assembly Rooms on Thursday evening, Feb. 22.

Col. Wm. Eward, Jr., announces the following non-com. staff appointments in the 9th regiment: John T. Engle, sergeant maj.; Walter H. Van Vleet, Q. M. sergeant; Albert Wedde, commissary sergeant; Alfred E. Miller, ordnance sergeant; Jas. Hetherington, hospital steward; Geo. W. Hill, drum major; Matthew Archibuck, band leader; Wm. M. Hatch, sergeant standard bearer; Wm. H. Ehrman, general guide; Daniel P. O'Connor, general guide.

Capt. G. T. Lorigan, 9th regiment, has been commissioned.

Capt. Patrick K. Horgan, 69th regiment, has been honorably discharged.

Review by Gen. Louis Fitzgerald and presentation of marksmen's badges, 69th regiment, will take place at the armory on Monday, Feb. 26, at 3 p. m., in full dress uniform and white gloves.

The 5th regiment, New York Sons of Veterans, Duryea Zouaves, have organized a drum corps, under the supervision of N. T. Jenks, drum major of the 71st regiment, N. G. S. N. Y. The members of the drum corps must be sons of veterans.

A little pamphlet called "Manual for Guards and Sentinels, 12th Regiment," has just been issued, which contains a good deal of information on this, to the majority of militiamen, incomprehensible subject. It has been adopted by several other organizations, and as it can be procured at \$5 for 100 copies, no regiment should be without a supply.

Camp Sigel, United Veteran Army, gave a vocal and instrumental concert at Broadway Garden, which was a very pleasant affair.

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, Co. C, 23d regiment, Capt. West, formerly of the Ninth, were entertained by Co. D, 9th regiment, Captain Carberry, at a banquet at the Utah House, whereat Co. D, Ninth, presented their ex-captain, West, with a diamond 23d regiment badge, speeches being made by the leading officers of both regiments. Lieutenant-elect G. A. Nun and King, of Co. D, Ninth, together with Captain-elect Carberry, tendered the banquet to both companies. Lieut. Col. Montgomery, Surgeon Regt. Adj. Housman, Inspector of Bids Practice Withers, Capt. Tallman, Walton, Hussar, Mulligan, Lieut. Horts, Skinnell, Wells, and several officers of the 23d regiment were present, each one being called upon for a speech.

Details from four companies of the 7th Regiment (Price's, Appleton's, Bawn's and Conover's) were at Creedmoor on Thursday, February 22, going through line, volley and skirmish firing.

The ball of the 11th Regiment, at Irving Hall, on Washington's Birthday was a complete success, and the merriment was kept up till a late hour in the morning.

The 11th Regiment turned out for presentation of marksmen's badges, on Thursday evening, Feb. 22.

The reception of Capt. Earle's 22d Battery, at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, Feb. 22, was a well attended, pleasant affair.

Generals Jourdan, Molinoux, Wingate and Robbins, Colonel Bodine, Major Poillon, Sergeant Deane of Riplo fame, and others, were at Creedmoor, February 22, witnessing the skirmish drill of the 7th Regiment.

MICHIGAN.—The following bill has been introduced into the Legislature of Michigan:

That for the next four years, beginning September 17, 1883, each Senatorial district shall be entitled to have one cadet at the Military Academy at Orchard Lake, also three additional ones appointed from the State at large for the same period; said cadets to be furnished with tuition, board, etc., by the Academy free of expense. The appointment of these cadets, excepting the three at large, which shall be specially conferred by the Governor, shall be made by the State Military Board, after competitive examination, at the joint request of the Senator and representatives of the district of which the applicant must be an actual resident. The applicants for admission must be between 14 and 18 years of age, at least 5 feet in height, and free from disease or any deformity which would render them unfit for military service. They must be well versed in reading, writing, arithmetic and orthography; they must also have a knowledge of English grammar, descriptive geography, particularly of our own State and country, and of the history of the United States. Each cadet before receiving his warrant shall, in the presence of the Superintendent, engage in the following form: I, _____, of the county of _____, Michigan, do hereby engage, with the consent of my parent or guardian, in the event of my receiving such appointment, that I will serve in the militia of the State for four years, unless sooner discharged by competent authority, and that I will at all times obey the legal orders of my superior officers and the rules and articles governing the militia of the State. Each State cadet shall serve at the Academy at least two years before receiving a diploma. At the time of his graduation, and after an examination by the State Military Board, he shall be commissioned by the Governor a Lieutenant or captain of Cavalry, Artillery or Infantry in the State troops, as the board shall recommend. These officers shall be borne on the roster as unassigned officers, without pay, unless assigned to duty by the Governor, when they shall receive the pay of officers of like grade. The sum of \$40,000 is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, which sum is to be turned over to the trustees named by the Legislature, to be expended by them or under their direction in the erection of additional school buildings for the use of said Academy.

This bill is certainly a step in the right direction. The want of competent officers is one of the most serious defects of the militia, and one impossible to remedy under the present elective system which prevails everywhere. The defect is more felt in the Artillery and Cavalry arms than in the Infantry, and the supply of competent officers for the two former branches is almost an impossibility. By the pursuance of a system, as proposed in the above bill, a sufficient number of officers competent to act as instructors in every branch of the service would soon become available. This would be of great advantage to a State like Michigan, which, situated along the Lake shores, forms a large portion of our most exposed and weakest frontier. We have but a single vessel of war on the Lakes, and are on this point completely at the mercy of England, which, through the St. Lawrence and Welland canal, can introduce her men of war into the Lakes at any time, and reduce our cities on their shores to subjection without means of resistance on our part. A handful of Infantry troops form the present garrison of the few obsolete forts we possess in that region, and a well-trained State Artillery force would be of incalculable value in time of need.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD.

The companies of the 1st Regiment Infantry, O. N. G., all of which are located in the City of Cincinnati, were inspected at their armory on Court street, February 8 and 9, by General S. B. Smith, Adjutant General on Gov. Foster's staff. Owing to the small size of the main drill room, four of the companies were inspected on Thursday night, and the remaining companies, together with the bands and non-commissioned staff, on Friday evening. At the first inspection the command consisted of Company A, Captain Robert Koernien, 35 men; Company B, Captain John J. Desmond, 1st Lieut. Emil Diez, 30 men; Company C, Captain Richard Shape, 1st Lieut. Harry Franklin, 2d Lieut. O. E. Dana, 32 men; Company H, Captain J. W. Carroll, 1st Lieut. Thomas H. Wright, 36 men. The formation of the battalion was delayed, owing to the slow movements of some of its companies—more properly a fault of those captains. It would have been much better for the companies to have followed each other closely than each to have waited until the preceding one was near the line before starting for its position. The companies, with their officers, appeared in fatigue uniform, heavy marching order, with knapsacks and blankets, while the field and staff appeared in full dress. Now, for the sake of uniformity, either these officers should have worn their fatigues, or the men their full dress. Upon the battalion being broken into platoons, some very good wheels were executed. The Inspector, who is every inch of a soldier and a most efficient officer, as is proved by the well known improvement of the O. N. G., during his administration, at first made a general inspection of the clothing and appearance of the command, followed by a close inspection of each man's piece. During the inspection much unsoundness in ranks, considerable gaiting about, raising of hands, some talking, and even laughing, were plainly noticeable. We have criticised in this open manner for the battalion's good; for, while we believe much is to be gained in rendering honor to whom honor is due, yet we are sure nothing is lost by attention to our faults as seen by a friendly eye. Company B, we think, made the most soldierly appearance, which is largely due to the painstaking of its handsome capt. in, John J. Desmond. On Friday night the Adjutant General inspected Company C, Capt. George Brunner, 1st Lieut. John Proctor, 2d Lieut. Gus Haller, 40 men; Company D, Capt. Charles Becht, 1st Lieut. Jacob Feurstein, 2d Lieut. H. Chamberlain, 40 men; Company I,

Capt. John Foelger, 30 men; Band, Drum Major Lou Hoeks; Chas. Voight, leader; Sergeant George G. Smith, business manager, 30 men. Field and staff—Col. C. B. Hunt, commanding; Lieut. Col. W. Johnston, Major James Morgan; Chaplain Henry D. Moore, Adjutant Paul F. Weighlin, Quartermaster T. G. Johnson, Commissary E. J. Lukens; Surgeon, Major A. E. Jones; Assistant Surgeon W. S. Hubert; Aide to commanding officer, Ed. Bemis.

Co. C, Capt. Brenner, decidedly carried off the honors of the evening. The officers of the company are young men of fine bearing, having their souls in the work and requiring a strict discipline. The company showed the result of these advantages. Taking into consideration the large membership of the various companies, the attendance was not what it ought to have been for such an important duty.

Immediately after the inspection the battalion passed in review. The march was by column of platoons owing to smallness of room. For the same reasons the adjutant was compelled to march at the head of the column instead of his proper place. The platoons, as a general rule, kept well dressed, good step, and made good wheels—in a word, they marched well. The officers rendered the proper salutes at the right time. It would, however, have been much better for the adjutant to have equalized the battalion than for the captains to have divided their companies into three platoons.

Among the visitors present were Major P. W. Stanhope, U. S. A. (retired), Lieut. John T. Thompson, 2d U. S. Artillery, of Newport Barracks, Ky., who assisted at inspection on Friday night; Quartermaster General Lewis Seasongood, of Ohio; Lieut. Col. Phillips and Schotts of 4th Regiment O. N. G.

After the inspection the officers and their visitors adjourned to Hunt's Hotel, managed by the hospitable colonel, where they were handsomely entertained.

Major General S. B. Smith is a fine-looking veteran of compact build, medium size, hair, moustache and goatee, sprinkled with gray. He has a splendid war record, and since that time has taken a great interest in the militia. To a position of small pecuniary return he devotes his time, which, if given by a man of equal ability to a business or profession, would bring a rich reward financially.

CALIFORNIA.—G. O. 16, February 9, announces the following appointments: W. W. Smith, of San Bernardino, to be

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brigadier general, 1st brigade, vice Rowell, not confirmed by the Senate; Major James A. Shepherd, of Stockton, to be brigadier general 3d brigade, vice Ketchum, removed; John T. Carey, of Sacramento, to be brigadier general 4th brigade, vice Tozer, not confirmed by the Senate.

GEN. Daban, one of Marshal Camacho's ablest and youngest lieutenants in Cuba, a deputy for one of the constituencies of that island and a member of the ministerial party, has submitted to the Spanish Congress at Madrid a proposition that conscription for military service be introduced in Cuba and Porto Rico; that no distinction be made between whites or blacks for admission into the ranks of the Colonial Army; that the colonial forces be composed in equal numbers of creoles, white, black or colored men born in the colonies, and of native born Spaniards. Gen. Daban says that this reorganization of the army and militia of the West Indies must consolidate the loyalty of the creoles and will be popular.

A DESPATCH from Halifax, N. S., says that Lieut. General Lord Alexander Russell, who passed through there during the Trent affair, in command of a battalion of "The Prince Consort's Own" rifle brigade, and who marched from Halifax to Quebec during the winter of 1861, may succeed Gen. Sir Patrick McDougall, in command of the forces in British North America. Sir Patrick's term expires May 24, when he will proceed to England.

THE statue recently erected at Woolwich, England, in memory of Prince Louis Napoleon, killed in Zululand, is thus described: It is a bronze figure of heroic size, and the Prince is represented in the campaigning patrol jacket, and high boots, worn in Zululand. His helmet is placed on the ground behind him, and in his right hand, with an extremely natural pose of the body and partly outstretched arm, he holds a field glass, adjusted for use. The pedestal is a massive structure of polished Aberdeen granite, and upon the four panels and on the angle faces are the imperial "N." surmounted by the crown and the arms and motto of the Royal Artillery Corps. The inscriptions, read from the front panel, are: "Napoleon, Prince Imperial. Gentleman Cadet Royal Military Academy from 18 Nov., 1872, to 16 Feb., 1875. Erected by upward of 25,000 officers and men from all branches of Her Majesty's forces. Born in Paris, 16 March, 1856; killed fighting in South Africa 1st June, 1879." At the corners at the top of the pedestal are imperial eagles in bronze.

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*Ten years ago the name of Lydia E. Pinkham was scarcely known outside of her native State. To-day it is a household word all over the Continent, and many who read the secular and religious journals have become familiar with the face that shines on them with a modest confidence, in which we read the truth that "Nothing ill can dwell in such a temple."

BIRTH.

HASKIN.—At Fort Canby, Wash. Ty., January 25, to the wife of Acting Assistant Surgeon H. S. Haskin, U. S. A., a son.

MARRIED.

GARRARD—LANE.—At Centurion Church, Fortress Monroe, Va., Feb. 15, by the Rev. T. Peyton Morgan, of Cleveland, Ohio, assisted by Osgood E. Herrick, Chaplain U. S. Army, Lieut. JOSEPH GARRARD, U. S. Army, and MARY BRIDGES, daughter of Col. W. B. Lane, U. S. Army.

POWELL—HICKS.—At Danville, New York, February 21, Lieut. PHILIP P. POWELL, 9th U. S. Cavalry, to Miss KATHERINE WOODRUFF HICKS.

DIED.

HART.—At Fort McKinney, Wyoming, February 17, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel VERLIEG K. HART, Major 6th U. S. Cavalry.

JAMES.—At Poughkeepsie, February 16, of apoplexy, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel HENRY WARREN JAMES, Major U. S. Army, retired.

LOCKWOOD.—At Detroit, Mich., February 11, BENJAMIN HUNTER, only child of Lieutenant B. C. Lockwood, 22d U. S. Infantry.

QUIMBY.—At Fort Snelling, Minn., Feb. 20, Captain H. BATTER QUIMBY, 25th U. S. Infantry.

UPHAM.—At Dixon, Illinois, February 13, in his 72d year, STEPHEN KIDDER UPHAM, a native of Castine, Maine, father of Capt. F. K. Upham, 1st Cavalry.

GODFREY.—At West Point, N. Y., February 22, MARY P. GODFREY, wife of Captain E. S. Godfrey, 7th U. S. Cavalry.

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Net Assets, December 31, 1881.....	\$7,314,655 08
Receipts during the year:	
For Premiums.....	\$1,358,131 63
For Interest.....	450,787 30
	1,818,918 93

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Claims by Death and Matured Endowments.....	\$551,687 04
Surrenders, Dividends and Re-insurance.....	388,915 73

Total paid Policy-holders.....	\$940,602 78
Commissions to Agents, Brokers, &c.....	115,907 40
Other Expenses.....	302,290 36
	\$1,358,790 53

Net Assets, January 1, 1883.....	\$7,894,738 43
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ASSETS.	
Philadelphia and other City Loans, R. R. and Water Bonds, Bank and other Stocks.....	\$3,650,554 40
Mortgages and Ground Rents.....	2,013,431 00
Premium Notes secured by Policies, &c.....	665,576 78
Loans on Collaterals, &c.....	640,867 00
Home Office and Real Estate bought to secure Loans.....	839,778 53
Cash in Trust Companies and on hand.....	64,229 82

Net Ledger Assets as above.....	\$7,894,738 43
Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums.....	140,373 25
Interest due and accrued.....	55,430 44
Market Value of Stocks, &c., over cost.....	322,565 66

Gross Assets, January 1, 1883.....	\$8,483,807 72
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LIABILITIES.	
Losses reported, but not due.....	\$165,634 07
Reserve at 4 per cent. to re-insure risks.....	6,554,919 00
Surplus on Life Rate Endowments, &c., and General Surplus, 4 pr. ct. basis.....	1,463,324 56
	\$8,483,807 72

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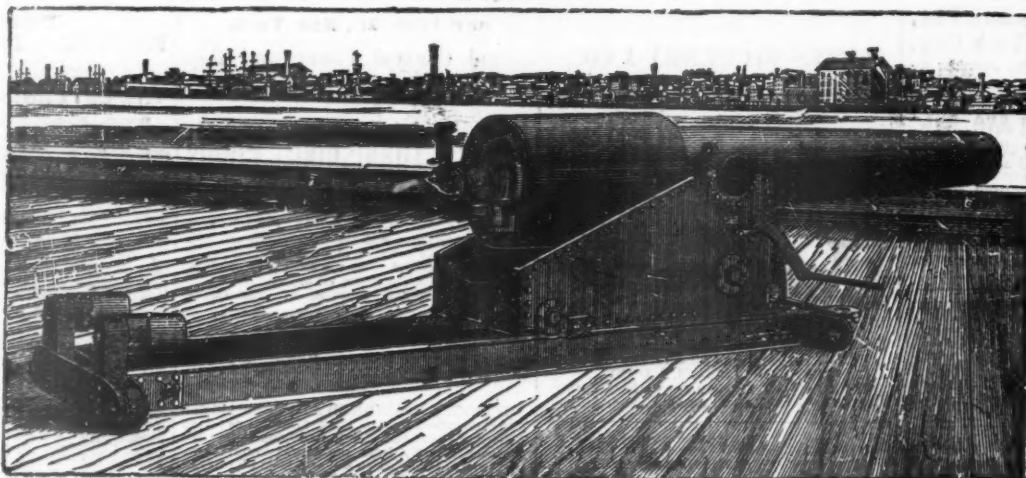
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